

**Ramsey County Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 15, 2017
2300 North St. Paul Drive
North St. Paul, MN – 6:30 PM**

CONNECT community
INSPIRE curiosity
CULTIVATE learning

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Public Comment (6:30-6:35)**
- III. Introduction of Friends Executive Director, Cyndi Cook (6:35-6:40)**
- IV. Consent Agenda (6:40-6:45)**
 - A. Approval of Agenda (1)
 - B. Approval of January 18, 2017 Minutes (2)
 - C. Annual Report to State (3)
 - D. Director's Report (4)
 - E. Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries Report (5)
 - F. 2016 Fourth Quarter Reports
 - 1. Strategic Plan Update & Workplan Progress (6)
 - 2. Financial Report (7)
 - 3. Statistical Report (8)
 - 4. Incident Reports (9)
- V. Action Items (6:45-8:15)**
 - A. 2016 Year End Reserve List (10)
 - B. 2018-2019 Budget Request
 - 1. Budget Timeline (11)
 - 2. Budget Overview & Priorities (12)
- VI. Discussion Items (8:15-8:30)**
 - A. Shoreview Update (13)
 - B. North St. Paul Branch Update/Tour (14)
 - C. Other
- VI. Adjournment (8:30)**
- VII. Next Meeting – April 5, 2017, RCL – Shoreview, 4560 North Victoria Street, 6:30 p.m. (TENTATIVE)**

Scheduled Upcoming Meetings

April 5, 2017	RCL – Shoreview 4560 North Victoria Street	Annual Meeting 2018-2019 Budget Approval Library Fines & Fees Award Library Gold Cards Public Policies Review Shoreview Update
May 17, 2017	RCL – Maplewood 3025 Southlawn Drive	2017 First Quarter Reports Technical Services Update Human Resources Update Shoreview Update
June 21, 2017	RCL – White Bear Lake 2150 – 2 nd Street	Automation Services Overview/Tech Plan Racial Equity Update Life Skills Program Update Shoreview Update Branch Update/Tour

Library Board

Kim Vanderwall, Chair
Janice Rapheal, Vice Chair
John Hakes, Secretary
Marisol Chiclana-Ayala
Craig Klausing
Paula Mielke

Library Director

Jill Boldenow

Administrative Office
4560 North Victoria St.
Shoreview, MN 55126
Phone: (651) 486-2200
www.rclreads.org

Minutes of the Ramsey County Library Board January 18, 2017

LIBRARY BOARD PRESENT:

Marisol Chiclana-Ayala, John Hakes, Craig Klausing, Paula Mielke, Jan Rapheal, Kim Vanderwall

STAFF PRESENT:

Jill Boldenow, Library Director; Lynn Wyman, Deputy Director; Mary Larson, Library Board Coordinator; Jeff Eide, Policy & Planning Manager; Bill Michel, Facilities Planning Manager; Kristi Saksvig, Communications & Programming Manager; Chuck Wettergren, Automation Services Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jim Hall, Ramsey County Information Services Director; Les Sipkema, Shoreview Resident

CALL TO ORDER:

Vanderwall called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. in the Community Program Room of the Ramsey County Library in Maplewood, 3025 Southlawn Drive.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Les Sipkema, Shoreview resident, made several suggestions regarding library and policy issues, and discussed his research into flight crashes and investigations.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Klausing made a motion to approve the agenda for January 18, 2017, the minutes of December 14, 2016, and the revised minutes of September 21, 2016, as presented. Chiclana-Ayala seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote.

ANNUAL FRIENDS GIFT:

Each year, the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries give a gift to the Library for a variety of program needs identified by Library staff. For 2017, the Library requested \$70,000 for programming, technology literacy, the volunteer program, and staff development. The Friends' Board approved the request.

Klausing made a motion to accept the annual gift of \$70,000 from the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries for 2017 program and service needs identified by the Library. The motion was seconded by Chiclana-Ayala, and approved unanimously.

SHOREVIEW CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONATIONS:

Several restricted donations for the Shoreview Capital Campaign were received in late 2016, which exceed the existing gift threshold and require Board approval.

- Children's small interactive pieces - \$5,010 (Shoreview Rotary Club)
- Artwork - \$10,000
- Children's lending collection - \$10,000 (Kiwanis Club)
- Children's Museum pieces - \$10,000 (Susan Miller)
- Lending collection - \$13,000
- Artwork - \$15,000
- Lending collection - \$15,000
- Media Lab equipment - \$15,000
- Children's Museum pieces - \$16,000
- Laptop computers and accessories - \$18,000

Klausing made a motion to accept the Shoreview Capital Campaign donations totaling \$127,010 from the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries for the purposes designated. Chiclana-Ayala seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE RETIREMENT OF SUE GEHRZ:

Klausing made a motion to approve the Resolution Regarding the Retirement of Sue Gehrz, Executive Director of the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries, and to authorize the Library Board Chair to sign the document. Chiclana-Ayala seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The new library in Shoreview has continued to blossom with the installation of furniture, collections, technology, signage, and other elements. Staff is very excited to open the doors and celebrate with the community next week. The facility has received great reviews from media, library directors in the MELSA system, and others who have taken preview tours.

Library staff are engaged in planning and reporting. After months of discussion with staff, a draft work plan for 2017 will be finalized soon. Year-end reports are being gathered on the 2016 work plan and preparing the annual report to the state of Minnesota. The next major planning phase begins in February, with Ramsey County budget planning.

The library in Roseville is hosting a new exhibit that pairs work by elementary and high school students. The exhibition features pairs of drawings of imaginary monsters. Using the images created by Central Park Elementary School students, Roseville Area High School students reinterpreted their younger peers' monsters in their own drawings. The exhibit continues through February 17.

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners elected Commissioner Reinhardt to serve as Chair and Commissioner Rettman to serve as Vice-Chair in 2017. The County Board appointed Commissioner McGuire to serve as the Ramsey County Library Board of Trustees Liaison (with Commissioner Rettman as alternate). The County Board also appointed Commissioner Rettman to serve on the Metropolitan Library Services Agency (MELSA) Board of Trustees.

FRIENDS OF THE RAMSEY COUNTY LIBRARIES REPORT:

Applications are being taken for the part-time Executive Director's position. Sue Gehrz will continue working on a limited basis until the new employee is hired and trained.

The Friends are looking forward to having an information table at the Grand Opening. The new building and facilities are wonderful. Donations and pledges made so far total \$173,245. The many plaques acknowledging major gifts are visible symbols of the tremendous enthusiasm that so many people have demonstrated for this new regional library.

The Friends are very grateful to the following community organizations that contributed funds for the amenities that will make this new library such a wonderful resource for people of all ages. The Kiwanis Club of North Suburban Saint Paul donated \$35,000 and the Arden Hills-Shoreview Rotary Club donated \$5,010 to fund resources in the Children's Area. The Shoreview Community Foundation donated \$4,000 for a 3D printer and Gallery 96 raised funds for a hanging art display system. The North Oaks Community Foundation raised \$15,000, the FIGS of North Oaks Golf Club donated \$8,000, the Harriet G. Walker Chapter DAR gave \$2,500, and the Vadnais Heights Area Community Foundation contributed \$1,000 to help fund new technologies, art and additions to the lending collection.

The following generous sponsors are supporting this year's Kindergarten Library Card celebration on January 21:

- Mounds Park Academy (Gold Level sponsor - \$1,500)
- Metro State University (Silver Level sponsor - \$500)
- Northeast Bank (Copper Level sponsor - \$250)

Mark your calendars for the Friends Gala ***Kids at Heart, a night to support the Ramsey County Libraries and celebrate children's literature*** to be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 1st at the library in Roseville. Please help the Friends find sponsors and auction item donors for this event, which is held to raise funds for the library's lending collection. Learn more at rclfriends.org/gala2017.

Volunteers are needed to help stock the shelves with books, DVD's, and CD's in the Friends Bookstore at the library in Maplewood. Training is provided and the schedule is flexible. Please call 651-486-2213 for more information.

PHASE 2 IT CONSOLIDATION:

Jim Hall, Director of Ramsey County Information Services (IS), was present to discuss the Phase 2 of the IT Consolidation. Hall noted that departments that report to the County Manager were included in Phase 1, while the Library and the County Attorney's Office are the departments included in the second phase.

Hall indicated that the consolidation should not impact the patron experience in any way. The intent is to have the IS Department handle IT infrastructure, while the Library continues to maintain applications.

No reductions in staff are included in the consolidation plans. Current staff are completing surveys outlining their job duties, and will have the option to transfer to the IS department or remain with the Library. Only staff working in the IS department will have IT job titles, while those remaining with the Library will be reclassified. Staff who transfer to IS will have the option to transfer back to the Library within one year.

Kickoff for the consolidation planning will start in February, after the grand opening of the new library in Shoreview. Discussions are already underway in the areas of network management and e-mail services.

SIRSIDYNIX AGREEMENT:

After an initial technical and legal review of the SaaS proposal and related SirsiDynix agreements, the Ramsey County Attorney's Office decided to pursue a new service level agreement (SLA) rather than creating an addendum to the current agreement. In part, this was because the current SLA was developed largely around local hosting. The Library will use the new "Master Managed Services Agreement" developed by the Ramsey County Attorney's Office to address updated security practices and requirements when utilizing remote hosted services.

As part of the new agreement to support SaaS, the proposed initial terms will allow four annual renewals beyond the initial first year. Because this will be a new agreement, with new term lengths, it is desired to have the Library Board reauthorize the Library to continue pursuing an agreement with SirsiDynix. Also due to the delay in moving to SaaS there may be a slight increase in implementation costs causing first year expenditures to exceed \$35,000.

An integrated library system (ILS) is a combination of specialized databases and software used to manage collections, circulation, cataloging, acquisitions, serials and borrower accounts. It also facilitates the use of material handling systems, computer management software and user authentication for subscription resources. Ramsey County Library (RCL) currently uses the Horizon ILS provided by SirsiDynix, and hosts this system in-house using several specialized servers.

A growing trend is to provide ILS solutions as subscription services maintained via the Internet or in “the cloud.” This type of subscription service is often identified as Software as a Service (SaaS). SaaS allows the library to shift responsibility of hosting servers and software to the vendor, eliminating costs and risks related to in-house hosting. SaaS also allows reallocation of staff time to focus on managing and improving content maintenance and user interfaces. SirsiDynix takes SaaS one step further by hosting the Horizon client application used by library staff, eliminating the need to install and maintain clients on approximately 140 staff PCs.

Klausing made a motion to authorize the Library to pursue an agreement with SirsiDynix for the migration of Horizon to SaaS, as outlined in the RCL Technology Plan endorsed by the Library Board in June 2016, with a first year cost increase not to exceed \$40,000; and to authorize the Library Director to sign the agreement, subject to the approval of the Ramsey County Attorney’s Office. Hakes seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote.

EILENNE BODER STUDY ROOM:

Eilenne Boder was a Ramsey County Librarian for 33 years. At the time of her death on April 24, 2015, she was serving as Branch Manager of the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview and helped develop the preliminary plans for the new library. Memorials from Eilenne’s family, friends, colleagues and neighbors total the \$5,000 needed for naming rights for a small study room in the new library in Shoreview. One of the small study rooms in the Children’s Area will be named as follows: ***Study Room in memory of Eilenne Boder.***

Mielke made a motion to grant naming rights for a small Study Room in the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview in memory of Eilenne Boder based on the donation of \$5,000 to be received by December 31, 2017. Chiclana-Ayala seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

LYNN BELGEA STUDY ROOM:

Lynn Belgea has been on the Board of Directors for the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries for eight years and serves on the Shoreview Library Capital Campaign Committee. She donated \$2,500 in December 2016 and pledged another \$2,500 in 2017 toward the Shoreview Library Capital Campaign and requested that these gifts be recognized with naming rights for a small study room in honor of her deceased parents.

Lynn’s father, Dr. Peter Belgea, had a dental office above his family’s grocery store on Rice Street. He served patients in the Saint Paul area for forty-one years. Lynn’s mother, Kathryn, was an avid reader and library patron. One of the four small study rooms will be named: ***The Peter and Kathryn Belgea Study Room.***

Mielke made a motion to grant naming rights for a small Study Room in the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview to Lynn Belgea in honor of her parents, Peter and Kathryn Belgea, based on her donation of \$2,500 received in December 2016, with the remaining \$2,500 to be received by December 31, 2017. The motion was seconded by Chiclana-Ayala, and approved by unanimous vote.

PETER HILGER STUDY ROOM:

Peter Hilger, North Oaks resident and past Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries Board Member, donated \$5,000 to the Shoreview Library Capital Campaign on December 27, 2016 in honor of University of Minnesota Construction Management Students. Mr. Hilger is faculty director of the Construction Management degree program, where he manages the development and delivery of curricula. An architect by training, a builder by passion, and a teacher at heart, Peter Hilger has served the Construction Management program since its inception in 1997.

Mr. Hilger helped create a partnership with Ramsey County and the architects and construction company building the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview that enables students to study and tour the new library and learn from the challenges and opportunities the project offered. One of the four small study rooms will be

named as follows: ***The Hilger Room honors University of Minnesota Construction Management students who learn from the construction of this library.***

Mielke made a motion to grant naming rights for a small Study Room in the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview to Peter Hilger based on his donation of \$5,000 received in December 2016. Chiclana-Ayala seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

SHOREVIEW NAMING RIGHTS OPPORTUNITIES:

As of December 2016, all naming rights and donor recognition opportunities for donations ranging from \$2,500 to \$15,000 have been granted. The Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries request approval to offer additional naming opportunities. Library Board approval will be required before the specific naming right for a room or area is granted.

Rapheal made a motion to authorize the Friends of the Ramsey County Library to offer naming rights for the following areas in the Ramsey County Library in Shoreview:

<u>Naming Opportunities</u>	<u>Gift</u>
• Long wooden bench in front of Library	\$ 8,000
• Short wooden bench in front of Library	\$ 5,000
• Oak Laptop Bar	\$12,000
• Oak Bench next to Laptop Bar	\$ 8,000

The motion was seconded by Klausing and approved by unanimous vote.

2017 WORKPLAN:

Boldenow briefly reviewed the Library's 2017 workplan, indicating the initiatives that have been identified for this year's major goals and activities. Quarterly progress reports will be provided to the Library Board.

SHOREVIEW PROJECT UPDATE:

The Ramsey County Library in Shoreview finished moving out of the old building and into the new with a week to spare, and was able to turn the keys of the old building over to the Mounds View School District on January 2.

With the arrival of the service desks on January 11 and the final furniture pieces on January 12, all of the furnishings have arrived and been set in place. Administration and Technical Services are moved in and catching up on the work that they weren't able to do during the move. Thanks to the Automation Services staff, the actual down time was minimal.

Adolfson and Peterson Contractors (A&P) and its subcontractors are finishing up work on their punch lists. A&P will soon be finalizing construction costs, and will be releasing any remaining funds back to Ramsey County. The funds will be moved into the Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment line, enabling the Library to purchase additional items identified as necessary, but for which there are not currently funds to acquire.

Automation Services is working on setting up all the technology for both staff and public.

DIRTT walls between the Marketplace and the Children's area, and between the Adult and Teen areas have been erected. The artwork on the Teen wall is being fabricated, and should be installed prior to opening. The Library is obtaining official permission to use the children's book illustrations, so that part of the children's wall will be installed after opening.

The Art Committee has begun looking for pieces of art to enhance the public spaces, and the exterior Library sign has been installed. The exterior benches have arrived and been set in place, and the laptop bar and bench have been installed.

The Grand Opening of the new regional library in Shoreview will be Saturday, January 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The fun-filled day of music, activities and refreshments will begin at 10 a.m. with an official ribbon cutting ceremony. Kim Vanderwall will emcee the ceremony. Ceremony speakers will be John Hakes, Library Board; Ramsey County Commissioner Blake Huffman; Shoreview City Councilmember Cory Springhorn; and Sue Gehrz, Friends Capital Campaign. Kowalski's will provide refreshments. This event is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

LIBRARY BOARD SELF EVALUATION:

Vanderwall shared copies of the Library Board's self-evaluation survey results. All of the Board members completed the surveys.

NEXT MEETING: **February 15, 2017 – MEETING CANCELLED**
 March 15, 2017, RCL – North St. Paul, 2300 North St. Paul Drive, 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Larson
Library Board Coordinator

Ramsey County Library
Request for Library Board Action

<u>Meeting Date</u> March 15, 2017	<u>Action Requested</u> Authorization to Submit	<u>Presented By</u> Jeff Eide, Policy & Planning Manager
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SUBJECT:

2016 Annual Report to State

BACKGROUND:

State Library Services, a division of the Minnesota Department of Education, coordinates a statistical survey on library usage, collection size, staffing distribution, etc. for every library in Minnesota each year. Libraries are required to submit their annual data to the State Library Services Office no later than April 1. Ramsey County Library is currently in the process of gathering the required data for submission.

Policymakers, library administrators and the general public use the statistical data to plan and evaluate library development and services. Data for public, academic and state library agencies is available from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

A copy of the report will be available upon request after April 1.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

To authorize the Library Board Chair and Library Director to sign and submit the 2016 Public Library Annual Report to the Office of State Library Services as mandated.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT**March 2017**

Staff Updates:

Hired:	Julie Comine, substitute Library Page
	Michele Smith, substitute Library Page
Transfer:	Jim Johnson, White Bear Lake to Shoreview
Resigned:	Antonio Backman, substitute Library Page

Important Dates: The April Library Board meeting has been rescheduled to April 5. All libraries are closed April 6 and April 16.

The Library:

All are Welcome Here

The Library has launched a new campaign on the theme **All Are Welcome Here**. RCL branches are displaying these signs. This month, additional signage in branches and on the website invites customers to take an online survey (available at www.rclreads.org/Welcome) to tell us how we can do even better at welcoming and serving everyone.



One of RCL's guiding principles is to provide services to the whole spectrum of the community. At this time, due to threatening public policy proposals and acts of hate against certain groups, some community members may not feel safe at every government agency. We want the public to know that they are welcome and safe at the library. **All Are Welcome Here** was created by a group of designers in Minnesota. Thousands of these signs are now all around the state, in people's lawns, in offices and businesses, and online. RCL is excited to join this effort to emphasize respect and inclusiveness in our community. Many library colleagues across the country are sharing similar messages.

Racial Equity Book Club

For the past two years, Library staff have participated in a Racial Equity Book Club—discussing select titles at staff in-service days. At the April 6 training, we'll discuss the YA book, *See No Color*, by Shannon Gibney. We are pleased that Gibney, a local author, will join us for the sessions. Previous Racial Equity Book Club titles are: *A Good Time for the Truth*, ed. by Sun Yung Shin; *Between the World and Me*, by Ta-Nehisi Coates; *Waking Up White*, by Debby Irving; and *Citizen*, by Claudia Rankine.

MLA Legislative Day

I attended Minnesota Library Association Legislative Day on Feb. 22 with RCL librarians Amy Boese (current MLA President), Therese Sonnek, Monica Stratton, Ann Wahlstrom, and Frances Veit. We visited several legislators whose Ramsey County districts are served by our libraries, and discussed funding for regional library systems, Legacy-funded arts and cultural programming, and broadband and telecommunications aid.

Kindergarten Party

RCL children's librarians and other staff held a very successful Kindergarten Card Party on January 21 at Roseville Library. They gave 329 kindergartners their first library card at the event, which was attended by 1,000 friends and family. (A total of 1,552 card applications was processed.) Newbery Honor Winner and National Book Award Finalist Grace Lin gave a fantastic presentation—reading and illustrating for the attendees.



Shoreview Library Opening

On January 28, we hosted a festive grand opening at Shoreview Library. We welcomed 4,100 visitors, checked out 5,500 items, and gave out 3,000 cookies. Thank you to all of the Library Board members for celebrating with us, especially Kim Vanderwall and John Hakes for speaking at the program along with Commissioner Huffman, Sue Gehrz, and City Councilmember Cory Springhorn. Customers gave glowing reviews, and we saw how well the library accommodates many different activities. Kudos to all of the staff who planned and contributed to this project, staff who worked at the grand opening, and to everyone across RCL who has supported their colleagues throughout. RCL has completed a 10-year facility master plan and introduced a fabulous new library.

Ramsey County:

Library staff are working toward the April 10 deadline to deliver a target 2018-2019 budget to the Ramsey County Finance Department.

Library IT staff have submitted surveys of work roles and responsibilities to the County IS Department. County and Library staff will use the survey data to inform the direction of IT consolidation plans.

Executive Director's Update March 2017

Leadership Transition

After nine years of exceptional leadership, Sue Gehrz has retired as the executive director of the Friends. Cyndi Cook came on board as the new Friends executive director in February 2017. Cyndi brings a proven record of accomplishment in effective leadership, fundraising, and community engagement, as well as a deep commitment to working with communities in ways that account for race, age, gender, and class inequities in society and the institutions that serve communities. She has held leadership roles in both nonprofit organizations and state government including serving as the Battered Women's Program Director for the State of Minnesota and as the executive director of Praxis International and the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women. A resident of Roseville, Cyndi is passionate about the role that the seven suburban Ramsey County libraries serve as community builders and looks forward to taking up the Friends mission to strengthen, support and advocate for the Ramsey County Library system in order to enrich the lives of library users, to promote literacy and education, and to foster community.

Shoreview Library Capital Campaign

Donations and pledges made so far total \$193,296. There has been tremendous community support for this new regional library, illustrated in part by the many plaques that acknowledge major gifts from individuals, community service organizations and foundations, and local businesses. We are very grateful to the local Chinese community for raising more than \$12,800 just since the Shoreview Library grand opening at the end of January. \$8,000 will go toward naming rights for the interior oak bench created from trees reclaimed from the new library site and \$5,000 is dedicated for a major art piece by a local artist.

Annual Gala Fast Approaching

Join the Friends on April 1, 2017 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. to have fun and support a great cause at the annual gala, *"Kids at Heart-a night to support the Ramsey County Libraries and celebrate Children's Literature."* More than 250 people have attended past galas and this year we hope to raise \$30,000 to add 1,500 new items to the library lending collections in Maplewood, Mounds View, New Brighton, North Saint Paul, Roseville, Shoreview, and White Bear Lake. Live music, hors d'oeuvres, wine, costume contest, silent and live auctions, games and prizes. Please visit rclfriends.org/gala2017 to register.

2016 Year in Review

Thanks to our generous donors, members, volunteers, event sponsors, and bookstore sales in 2016, the Friends were able to provide \$300,817 in direct grants to the Ramsey County Library to support vital programs and resources and add \$87,165 worth of donated books to the library collection. In addition, Friends volunteers contributed more than 7,000 hours of volunteer time last year, worth over \$176,000. Members, donors and volunteers are always finding new and creative ways to contribute their ideas, talents, money, and time to support the wonderful libraries in suburban Ramsey County.

Friends Book Sales on Hiatus for 2017

We no longer have the storage space to accumulate books for the semi-annual book sales. We are currently exploring storage and shipping options for possible future book sales. In the meantime, we are working with an international online book re-seller, Thriftbooks, to sell the books we are unable to sell through the Friends library bookstore and cart locations. Our books are shipped to them, sold online, and the Friends receive a percentage of the profits.

Upcoming Events

Book It! 5K Walk/Run at 9:00 am on Saturday, September 16, 2017 at the Roseville Library. Runners, walkers, strollers, volunteers, children, and library lovers are all invited to participate in this family-friendly fundraiser. Proceeds will support the Summer Reading Program for children and teens at all seven Ramsey County Library locations.

Friends Annual Luncheon on Saturday, October 14, 2017 at the North Oaks Country Club. The program will feature both celebrated mystery writer Erin Hart and her husband, Irish musician and author Paddy O'Brien. Join us for a delightful morning of traditional Irish music and discussion of Hart's archaeological crime novels set in the mysterious boglands of Ireland. All members of the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries will receive a reservation flyer in the mail prior to the event.

2016 Achievements Summary

Priority 1. Strengthen Connections to Community Efforts and Partners

Surveyed the community. RCL deepened its community knowledge through several survey instruments. A MELSA survey measured access to broadband and technology inside and outside of the library; a resident phone survey measured library use and satisfaction; and the online Impact Survey examined library technology use and impact. These instruments informed us of community connection opportunities.

The Impact Survey also showed how the library supports County goals to strengthen individual and community health, cultivate economic prosperity, and enhance access to opportunity. 27% of our technology users are using tech for employment needs. 21% are using tech for educational activities. 30% are using tech to get information on health and wellness. 32% use tech to build and maintain family and social ties.

Launched ConnectED. After development with partners, RCL launched its ConnectED project, providing library cards to school students and collaborating with school media specialists to provide training on RCL databases and other resources. RCL distributed 2,100 library cards to students in grades 6-12 at White Bear Lake Area Schools. The project will expand in White Bear Lake and in other districts.

Priority 2. Foster Literacy and Student Achievement

Supported kindergarten readiness. Provided 1,570 children's programs with a total attendance of 72,214 in 2016. This includes 657 storytimes with 31,040 attendees.

Supported student success and healthy youth. Processed 1,403 kindergarten library card applications and distributed 312 cards at the party. Offered 131 elementary-age STEM/STEAM programs with 6,367 attendees in 2016. Received 4,988 book reviews from 931 teens who participated in the Teen Summer Reading Program. Facilitated Makerspace labs for 1,423 students featuring etching, stop-motion animation, Tinkercad 3D modeling, Hour of Code, Garage Band editing, and more. Assisted students with Homework Help at RV with volunteer tutors from Hamline University.

Expanded teen engagement. Hosted Library After Dark programs (after regular hours) for teens at MP with youth advocates—attracting 300 participants at 15 events. Hired a .8 FTE teen librarian for the new Shoreview Library. Enlisted five new teen volunteers.

Priority 3. Create Vibrant Learning Spaces that Engage the Broad Diversity of our Community

Built Shoreview Library. Achieved substantial completion of the new SV in December—on time and under budget. Sold and disposed of surplus materials. Moved offices and collections to Shoreview.

Improved user experience and collections. Implemented additional hours at New Brighton Library. Added e-Book and eAudio copies and large type materials. Increased circulation of electronic materials by 5% in 2016. Refurbished library flooring, furnishings, pedestrian pathways.

Presented relevant adult programs. Presented 52 history programs attended by over 3,600 people. Attracted a diverse audience with *A Good Time for the Truth* community conversation.

Priority 4. Promote Economic Prosperity and Racial Justice

Supported information literacy and life skills. The Library provided a range of digital literacy classes to 1,263 attendees and served another 1,645 people in open labs. We developed life skills programs with numerous partners to support health and wellness, financial and legal assistance, sustainability practices, social service resources, and ELL. Life skills program attendance grew over the year, with 2,618 attendees at 387 programs.

Promoted Racial Equity. Librarians Tami Lee and Anna Haase Krueger published an article on diversity and inclusion in storytime in the fall, 2016 issue of *Children & Libraries*. Offered programs: *Talking with Young Children about Race* and *Racially Diverse Books for Youth*, as well as adult programs on the history of the Black Lives Matter movement. Continued to require and present racial equity training for staff and offered Racial Equity Book Club for staff. Developed Racial Equity and Inclusion statement. Invested \$5,000 on picture books that feature children of color. Increased library materials by or about people of color from 16.5% of new purchases in 2015 to 20% of new purchases in 2016.

Priority 5. Ensure Stewardship of Public Resources

Supported the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries. Supported the Friends' book sales at RV, Book It! 5K Walk/Run, annual gala, and surplus sale at SV. Helped to define SV capital campaign goals and promote the campaign. Utilized grants from the Friends to enhance library programs. Assisted with revision of weeds and donation policies related to book sales and implementation of new Thrift Books contract.

Recruited and utilized volunteers. Received 24,170 hours of service from library and Friends volunteers.

Trained staff. Provided 2,806 hours of staff training. Saw completion of 2016 training requirements by 99% of permanent staff.

Developed partnerships. Continued to develop and nurture partnerships with hundreds of community organizations and schools throughout the county to leverage collective impact.

1. Strengthen Connections to Community Efforts and Partners.

<p>Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Library Engagement framework • Partner on County's engagement initiative • Complete DRL survey • Work with MELSA on access survey(SN) • Complete Impact survey (CW) • Conduct a Marnita's table 	<p>Jeff Eide</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquired training for key staff on engagement using Harwood Model • Collaborated with MELSA on metro-wide mail survey • Tested Harwood engagement tools • Begun using Harwood tools to gather feedback from key community stakeholders <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started planning process for a Community Conversation event in Mounds View using Harwood process • Developed resident phone survey • Solicited bid from private surveying firm to conduct survey • Completed Edge Assessment • Met with Ramsey County on Open Data initiative • Received initial data from the MELSA access survey <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted independent resident phone survey • Planned Community Conversation for late October • Scheduled Impact technology survey <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed Impact Survey with 1,037 users responding and reviewed results • Reviewed data from resident survey with staff and Board • Conducted Community Conversation at Mounds View library
<p>Collaboration Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify key partners • Identify partnership formats • Complete partners interviews 	<p>Jeff Eide</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started discussion of possible partnership frameworks <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started to compile list of possible partnership formats <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventoried and categorized existing partnerships <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with county to identify opportunities for alignment with IT infrastructure • Planned staff Management Team conversation around partnerships and tabling
<p>Library Cards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review patron types • Market to nontraditional populations (KS) • Expand student card program • Complete ConnectEd Challenge 	<p>Chuck Wettergren</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended ConnectEd meeting at the White House in Washington DC with Commissioner McGuire and superintendent Lovett (SN)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented WB project to School Board (SN) Presented to State Superintendents Association (SN) Allocated an additional \$20,000 for youth e-content in support of the ConnectED project Reviewed borrower types by committee and Circulation Supervisors <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met with White Bear Schools to arrange for library card applications to be made available online through the student website Reviewed borrower types at Management Team for final streamlining and consolidation <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated borrower types, eliminating 2/3 of types; simplified age types to 18+ or under 18 Ordered additional Student Cards to expand WBL School District card registration to cover grades 6-12 <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported, processed and distributed 2,100+ library cards to White Bear Students in grades 6-12. Streamlined process to eliminate paper forms and allow direct distribution by schools
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2. Foster Literacy and Student Achievement.

<p>Ready for Kindergarten (MS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop/Implement written plan to serve at risk preschoolers Offer ECRR2 training to day care providers and develop framework for service 	<p>Lynn Wyman</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offered 344 children's programs with a total attendance of 13,473 Provided 109 Family storytimes for 6,117 participants, 63 Baby and Me storytimes for 1,772 participants, and 4 other storytimes for 98 participants Offered storytimes featuring community guests, including the DNR on MN wildlife Continued to see capacity attendance at the Toddler Obstacle Course at RV, an activity that promotes whole-body, holistic learning Produced a flyer that promotes early literacy activities at the library and at home Hosted ECFE and Head Start visits to the libraries <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offered 387 children's programs with a total attendance of 17,890 Provided 95 Family storytimes for 5,957 participants, 56 Baby and Me storytimes for 1,672 participants, and 3 other storytimes for 59 participants Visited 5 preschool sites and provided programs for 202 children
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started a new Baby and Me storytime at WB • Cancelled ECRR training in May due to lack of registered participants <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered 459 children's programs with a total attendance of 24,727 • Provided 98 Family storytimes for 6,156 participants, 74 Baby and Me storytimes for 2,053 participants, and 5 other storytimes for 231 participants • Participated in Once Upon a Reader, a statewide one-book program • Held a program at RV with Derek Anderson, author of Ten Pigs: An Epic Bath Adventure, this year's Once Upon a Reader book • Partnered with RC Parks and Recreation to provide Storytrails at Snail Lake Park and Tony Schmidt Regional Park • Partnered with MN DNR for storytimes with a STEM focus • Saw the publication of an article on diversity and inclusion in storytime by children's librarians Anna Haase Krueger and Tami Lee in the Fall 2016 issue of Children & Libraries <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered 395 children's programs with a total attendance of 14,924 in quarter 4 • Provided 1,570 children's programs with a total attendance of 72,214 in 2016 • Provided 88 Family storytimes for 5,174 participants, 57 Baby and Me storytimes for 1,622 participants, and 5 other storytimes for 129 participants in quarter 4 • Provided a total of 657 storytimes with a total attendance of 31,040 in 2016 • Made 13 visits to pre-kindergarten classes and talked to 430 children • Offered the Legacy-sponsored program <i>Talking with Young Children about Race</i>
<p>Student Success (Youth Librarians)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop library partnerships with schools using tablets and library resources • Expand offsite card registration • Expand STEAM programming • Expand passive programming • Make recs. for summer reading changes • Offer neurological diversity programming • Develop Maker Space at SV • Evaluate youth programming 	<p>Lynn Wyman</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held the 8th annual Kindergarten Library Card party with over 1,200 attendees; processed 1,403 library card applications; distributed 312 cards at the Party • Provided 42 Paws to Read sessions for 97 young readers • Hosted 3 meetings of the Big Little Book Club, a parent-child book club that promotes family reading, for 23 participants • Offered 23 elementary-age STEM/STEAM programs with 524 in attendance; partners included the U of MN Neuroscience

	<p>Department and the American Chemical Society; other STEAM programs included Rube Goldberg Machines and Stop Motion Animation classes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted 52 students through twice weekly Homework Help at RV with volunteer tutors from Hamline University • Provided 20 passive programs with 2,085 participants; programs included a Lunar New Year scavenger hunt, I Love to Read Month, and March Madness • Provided 25 library tours for 670 students • Received a \$28,000 gift from the Friends to provide STEAM programming, at-risk outreach, passive programs, pollinator programs, and neurological diversity programming for children and youth • Partnered with the MN Historical Society to facilitate the research and projects of 185 History Hullabaloo students from 24 different schools • Offered 32 Makerspace labs for 429 students and 4 tech classes featuring Hour of Code, Garage Band, and Stop Animation for 25 students • Hosted 2 Minnesota College Goal Free FAFSA assistance workshops, assisting 7 families with financial aid questions and applications • Coordinated with Tartan and North high schools to instruct older teens on a variety of tech subjects <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visited 2nd grade students to promote summer reading; reached 850 2nd graders through 30 presentations to students • Provided 38 Paws to Read sessions for 111 young readers • Offered 30 elementary-age STEM/STEAM programs with 3,704 in attendance; programs included 3D Printing with Tinkercad, Geocaching for Kids, and chemistry with The Works • Provided 26 passive programs with 1,151 participants • Provided 12 library tours for 706 students • Offered 7 book club sessions attended by 83 students • Held the annual Children's Summer Festival on June 10 with approximately 2,000 people in attendance; this year's focus was on STEAM activities • Hosted 7 library visits per week at SV by the Summer Discovery kids from the Shoreview Community Center
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started Sensory-Friendly Mornings at RV in June, opening the library early on Fridays for children with special sensory needs and for families looking for a smaller, more adaptive library experience • Partnered with the City of Maplewood and Z Puppets Rosenschnoz to display a Kid City Laughter Museum Station at MP • Hosted a large and vibrant display of art by K-12 students from ISD 623 at RV in May, with 125 people attending a Student Art Reception on May 12 • Facilitated 50 Makerspace labs for 335 students and 9 tech classes featuring Spheros, Garage Band and Scratch animation for 34 students • Instructed 44 students from Heritage Academy, a Somali school in Minneapolis, on the use of library databases for research papers • Housed Roseville High School's summer reading books at RV in the Teen Room, checking them out to students using their school IDs • Partnered with Educational Equity Alliance to provide 26 middle school students with a crash course in technology during Teen Tech Camp at MP in June; classes included Circuitry and Lamp Design, 3D Design Software and Printing, and Stop Motion Animation • Participated in a 16-week E-Mentoring program with Roseville Middle School • Negotiated an agreement with University of MN Extension to provide Urban 4-H programming at MP and SV <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided 32 Paws to Read sessions for 76 young readers • Offered 51 elementary-age STEM/STEAM programs with 1,636 in attendance; programs included a Superhero Science Day in partnership with the New Brighton Community Center and expanded summer arts programs thanks to STEAM funding from the Friends • Provided 39 passive programs with 6,981 participants • Provided 10 library tours for 329 students • Offered 15 book club sessions attended by 152 students • Saw participation by nearly 5,000 preschool and elementary age students in this year's Summer Reading Program and reached another 1,600 students through summer outreach at local schools
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted a SciGirls camp (PBS/TPT program) for 9 to 12-year-old girls • Partnered with U of M Extension to bring Urban 4-H programs to SV • Received an LSTA grant in partnership with the WBL school district to participate in back-to-school nights and other school/library collaborations • Brought African-American author Zetta Elliot to MP Middle School for a reading with 60 students in partnership with St. Catherine's University • Received 4,988 book reviews from 931 teens who participated in the Teen Summer Reading Program • Ran a TC Techettes camp for 7 teen girls in partnership with CTEP members • Instructed 21 students through a crash course of technology during the August Teen Tech Camp at RV, in partnership with the Pony Tail Posse robotics club • Facilitated 37 Makerspace labs for 273 students, featuring Spheros, Tinkercad and Scratch animation • Participated in the University of MN freshman orientation, making library cards and promoting e-resources for 110 students • Received Friends grant for purchase of SV 3D printer <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided 29 Paws to Read sessions for 67 young readers in quarter 4 • Offered 27 elementary-age STEM/STEAM programs with 503 in attendance in quarter 4 and a total of 131 programs with attendance of 6,367 in 2016 • Provided 32 passive programs with participation by 2,375 children • Made 71 visits to elementary schools with presentations to 2,600 students, including visits to all kindergarten classrooms in suburban Ramsey County • Presented 2100 library cards to White Bear middle and high school students as part of the ConnectEd program, instructed on how to use library eresources • Hosted an art show featuring student artists from RAHS at RV • Brought booktalks and technology instruction to ISD 622 special education students at Harmony Learning Center, Tartan High School and North High school • Partnered with Central Park Elementary RV for a fall series of 8 video making classes
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated 34 Makerspace labs for 386 students, featuring etching, vector editing, sewing machines, Tinkercad 3D modeling, edible science, and stop-motion animation
Healthy Youth (ML) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve WB teen programming and space Expand FTE for teen services Work with school districts on after school bus program Revamp student worker programs on youth development 	Lynn Wyman 1st Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted 45 people for the Lao American Art opening at RV; some of these families had never visited a library Instructed 13 middle school students through classes in Scratch, Circuitry and Lamp Design, and 3D design software and printing during a spring break Teen Tech Camp, in partnership with the Educational Equity Alliance Partnered with the WBL YMCA for continued support of the Village Trail housing complex youth, offering space at MP for 26 afterschool meet-ups Partnered with U LEAD, Conservation Corp, and Bruegger's Bagels to host a teen job fair at RV for 8 students Promoted summer teen jobs and volunteer opportunities at Johnson High School's Teen Job Fair; interacted with 50 students Enlisted 5 new teen volunteers from the Century College volunteer fair Brought health screening, safe places information, and topical monthly discussions to MP teens through Face to Face 2nd Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted the Teen Summer Reading Festival at RV with 150 teens participating in a variety of activities Orchestrated an after-hours teen series at MP with youth advocate Timothy Turner and Marie Garza from the Maplewood Human Rights Commission; hosted 5 programs for 117 youth Served on the Violence Prevention Action team for Ramsey County, with a focus on library community building and youth development Partnered with the WB YMCA for continued support of the Village Trail housing complex youth at MP. Provided space for after-school meet-ups on Mondays and Wednesdays Promoted the library's manga and anime collections and Geekery clubs at Anime Detour, Twin Cities, reaching 413 fans Provided readers' advisory for teens at MELSA's Teen Literature Convention, with 1,020 teens in attendance; acted as liaisons for conference authors Jason Reynolds and Faith Erin Hicks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hired three teen summer workers to assist with teen programming • Hired two summer youth workers through RC Workforce Solutions ULead program • Continued to mentor a librarian in the MLA MILE program • Brightened the WB teen area with a neon art installation • Worked with RC Public Health to provide <i>Making Authentic Connections</i> training to MP staff; training designed to facilitate dialogue between library staff and high-school teens <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in Youth Science Day at the Science Museum of MN, making 3D printed cookie molds; engaged with 250 students • Collaborated with Suburban Community Channels to host a Video Boot Camp at WB for 12 teens • Partnered with Land of Gazillions to run a Comics from the Margins camp at MP for 10 teens • Partnered with the WB YMCA for continued support of the Village Trail housing complex youth, with after school meet-up space at MP on Mondays and Wednesdays • Continued an after-hours teen program at MP, with youth advocate Timothy Turner, local Human Rights Commissioner Marie de Garza and MP staff; hosted 5 programs for 111 teens • Trained two new Teen Services CTEP workers for the 2016/2017 year <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with Urban 4H to begin “Elements of Art,” a STEAM focused series at MP • Tabled at Nerdcon to promote RCL to the greater community reaching over 300 attendees • Partnered with Red Balloon bookstore to host YA authors Ransom Riggs and Tarereh Mafi for 185 fans at RV • Shared resources with WB YMCA at MP for continued support of the youth of Village Trail housing complex • Hosted 71 teens at 5 Library After Dark programs, an after-hours MP teen event, combining the skills of youth advocate Timothy Turner, Americorps member Shelby Dupre, and MP staff • Provided facility space and support to start up Youth on Board, a Minnesota Civic Youth initiative to train and build up 16 youth voices on suburban Ramsey County non-profit boards
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invited professional musicians to play the Indian Veena in October, and the Swedish Nyckelharp and Dulcimer in December through Schubert Club's KidJam; made our own instruments and played them as a continuation of Makerspace • Celebrated the new year with the library's 8th annual teen read-a-thon at RV • Presented 20 new books at RCL's Diverse Books showcase • Presented at RCL's fall in-service day on serving teens • Hired a .8 FTE teen librarian for the new SV library
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3. Create Vibrant Learning Spaces that Engage the Broad Diversity of Our Community.

Shoreview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete construction • Fundraise • Move • Develop special features • Set up technology (CW) • Vacate building, sell surplus • Hire staff (LW) • Plan additional programming (CJ) 	Bill Michel 1st Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erected structural steel framework • Installed metal decking and mechanical penthouse • Framed and sheathed exterior walls • Relocated transformer for existing building • Worked with the State Dept. of Education on the Grant Agreement • Received County Board permission to increase project budget by \$1,006,500 • Began intensive weeding project • Began meetings of the Capital Campaign Committee • Created wish list of amenities to be funded by Capital Campaign • Selected furniture • Began design work for DIRT in administrative suite • Ordered and received steel shelving parts and pieces • Met with the City of Shoreview and the Mounds View School District to discuss a monument sign design package for the Shoreview Commons • Completed SV electrical shutdown for construction • Received AMH quote • Presented AMH project to County TAF committee • Completed contract for fiber to Shoreview 2nd Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalized purchase of property at 795 Highway 96 from the City of Shoreview • Issued Bid Package for casegoods
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrated 100 days without a reportable accident on the construction site • Poured slab on grade • Installed exterior brickwork • Submitted the final financing plan to the State Department of Management and Budget as part of the development of the Grant Agreement between the County and the State of Minnesota • Issued Bid Package for public furnishings • Began B3 Commissioning process • Awarded casegoods contract to team of Embury Ltd and Nigon Woodworks • Submitted Grant Agreement signed by the County Manager to the State Department of Education for final review and approval by the Commissioner of Education • Installed underfloor HVAC and plumbing equipment • Began installing raised floor • Began installing curtainwall • Placed air handler and chiller in the mechanical mezzanine • Began work on interior and exterior signage and graphics package <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalized Grant Agreement with the State Department of Education • Celebrated 200 days without a reportable accident on the construction site • Awarded contracts for biddable public furnishings • Ordered staff furnishings using State and County Master Contracts • Finalized design of Administrative Suite • Placed order for DIRT walls for Administrative Suite and other offices • Installed curb and gutter for parking lot • Installed sidewalks • Placed first lift of asphalt for the parking lot • Installed area of pervious pavers in parking lot • Completed installation of roofing • Completed installation of curtainwall • Completed installation of underfloor mechanical and electrical systems • Completed installation of raised floor • Completed construction of interior walls • Completed installation of ceramic tile • Began installation of ceiling grid and tiles • Began installation of light fixtures • Ordered back-up book return • Began installation of casegoods • Began installation of walnut paneling
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with Ramsey County Procurement and County Attorney to finalize contract for Automated Materials Handling system • Finalized contract for community room technology • Installed fiber to SV property • Ordered phone service for SV • Ordered camera software and OS to support newer cameras required at SV <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hired a new Circulation Supervisor and a Teen Librarian and filled additional Children's Librarian hours • Compiled punch lists for all systems • Selected moving company for the move from the old building to the new • Installed DIRT walls for staff offices • Ordered furniture for all back of house areas • Began landscaping • Finalized design of DIRT art wall between the Teen and Adult areas of the Library • Worked with Ramsey County Workforce Solutions to hire a displaced professional to coordinate the library move • Closed the existing Library at the end of the day on November 23 • Took possession of the new building at the end of the day on November 23, as the project reached substantial completion • Used volunteers to load the collection onto moving carts, so that the movers could disassemble the shelving for moving • Held a very successful Book and Surplus Furniture Sale, raising nearly \$14,000 for the Shoreview Capital Campaign • Set up the shelving and collections • Received a Certificate of Occupancy from the City of Shoreview, allowing Library staff to permanently move into the building • Finished cleaning out the old building in anticipation of turning it over to the Mounds View School District • Continued to work through commissioning the mechanical and electrical systems • Received and set in place the furniture for the public spaces of the Library • Migrated Shoreview to Comcast connection • Installed CenturyLink phone service • De-installed Shoreview technology • Migrated Shoreview network to new building • Setup Administration, Technical Services and Public Services technology • Updated Shoreview wireless to expand coverage for public and staff • Installed Shoreview meeting technology
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed Shoreview interior cameras • Investigated and ordered public and staff computers, laptop lab equipment and workgroup printing solutions for Shoreview • Worked with Architects to design teen wall digital signage
User Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add hours New Brighton (LW) • Develop virtual services (CW) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Purchase discovery layer ○ Improve e-download and pilot Library Simplified ○ Update website ○ Promote • Improve physical services (CW) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Add charging stations ○ Add fax at SV and RV ○ Upgrade self-check language and offer no receipt option ○ Expand MV computing ○ Add Chromebrowsers ○ Support video conferencing • Improve collections (LW) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Add e-content ○ Add large type ○ Diversify content ○ Add youth content ○ Experiment with flipped learning 	Lynn Wyman/Chuck Wettergren 1st Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transferred hours and hired staff for Monday hours at NB • Added 1,910 eBook copies to the collection • Added 164 eAudio copies to the collection, including the newly available Harry Potter series • Added Ebooks Minnesota to website • Increased circulation of electronic materials by 13% over Quarter 1, 2015 • Earmarked \$5,000 of Gatsby Gala funds for added large type materials • Added diverse content to the RV storytub collection • Increased library materials by or about people of color from 17% of new purchases in Quarter 1, 2015 to 20% of new purchases in Quarter 1, 2016 • Allocated an additional \$20,000 for youth e-content in support of the ConnectED project • Received developer credentials to incorporate OverDrive into Library Simplified • Added Skype to new meeting room laptops • Updated Discovery layer with e-Audiobook icon and removed request button • Migrated Aquabrowser to 2008 server • Migrated SIP to 2008 server • Updated library staff network to support direct access to County RamseyNet 2nd Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added Monday hours to NB, beginning April 4 • Completed 2016-18 Technology Plan • Worked with Comcast to install POP for fiber at NB and SV • Completed BookLens survey and testing of recommendation engine • Replaced all Cybrarian servers • Worked with SPPL and ACL to decommission hosting at Ramsey • Worked with SirsiDynix to review SaaS requirements for ILS systems • Staged new TM3 server for telephony notices • Processed 417 pieces of computer equipment for County surplus • Updated MP telecomm room with UPS • Added 1,395 ebook copies to the collection • Added 70 eAudio copies to the collection

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased circulation of electronic materials by 8.7 % over Quarter 2, 2015 Increased library materials by or about people of color from 15% of new purchases in Quarter 2, 2015 to 19% of new purchases in Quarter 2, 2016 <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed the NB manager's office and reallocated staff to add additional Monday librarian hours Added 1,232 ebook copies to the collection Added 108 eAudio copies to the collection Increased circulation of electronic materials by 1.5 % over Quarter 3, 2015 Increased library materials by or about people of color from 15% of new purchases in Quarter 3, 2015 to 18% of new purchases in Quarter 3, 2016 Completed internal network survey and systems updates Updated electric at MV to support UPS installation Launched new telephone notification system Presented SaaS proposal to Library Board Ordered 111 replacement PCs for RV <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added 1,301 ebook copies to the collection Added 82 eAudio copies to the collection Migrated OverDrive ebook content to the Cloud Library platform Increased circulation of electronic materials by 5% in 2016 Increased library materials by or about people of color from 16.5% of new purchases in 2015 to 20% of new purchases in 2016 Added public fax capability to Shoreview copier Worked with County Attorney to develop SaaS agreement for SirsiDynix to facilitate updated ILS and discovery services Replaced 111 RV public Internet computers Updated software applications for public computing in Roseville Worked through recommended updates from network survey
<p>Refurbish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redo RV teen floor Refresh RV furnishings Redo MP and RV carpet Redo MP desks Replace MV chiller Redo MV kitchen Add pedestrian path access at MV Construct office at NB Develop WB parking sign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julie Neville 1st Quarter Achievements: Completed MV kitchen remodel Replaced insufficient sink at WB Let RFP for MV redesign and construction Moved lockers at RV Completed plexiglass protection for WB Mural Installed VFD on Dunn rooftop for better efficiency.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove gender from family bathrooms • Re think security cameras (CW) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed new staff ID template to coordinate with RC branding. • 2nd Quarter Achievements: • Installed DIRT walls and furniture to create a manager's office at NB • Completed data installation for NB office • Decided that additional parking lot signage was not needed at WB at this time • Replaced lights on stairwell at SV • Assisted with neon install at WB • Installed VFD on rooftop at RV for coffeeshop • Cleared brush on property at MP • Conducted repairs on fire suppression system at RV • Conducted repairs on fire alarm system at MV • Completed system-wide fire drills • Repaired damages from drain overflow at WB • Continued to monitor construction of SV • Continued to work with Mounds View Schools on their renovation • Completed first phase of LED retrofit at MP • Installed heater in mechanical room at MV • 3rd Quarter Achievements: • Continued to monitor SV project for correct install of mechanical systems • Continued to monitor SV project for install and construction, reporting problems to project manager • Continued to participate in the Commissioning Process with HGA, reporting problems to Commissioning Agent at HGA • Continued to watch and prep utilities to meet State required SB2030 operations of new SV facility • Completed install of path at MV connecting Library to walking/bike path • Completed purchase of janitorial equipment to enable us to clean carpet in house • Responded to and monitored 1 major power outage at RV and 1 major power outage at SV, and returned systems to normal • Installed test LED section of staff lighting at MP • Opened facilities after hours for "cooling stations" during hotter summer days • Completed 113 SRS (building requests) • Completed annual fire system inspections at all locations • Completed annual fire drills at all locations • Completed annual window washing at all locations. • Completed annual boiler inspections with the State Inspector • Cleaned and restored rain gardens at MP
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replaced spotlights in children's area of MP with LED • Installed new monument sign at MV with proper County branding • Continued to work with Mounds View Schools regarding the switchover of services • Completed Library IDs with the proper County branding • Attended ergonomic training at Public Works • Prepared and installed Workforce Solutions at MP during their emergency • Ordered camera software and OS to support newer cameras required at SV • 4th Quarter Achievements: • Replaced VCT floor in RV teen area with polished concrete • Replaced poured floor in MP entry vestibule due to damage and cracking • Sealed the restroom grout in RV to provide better appearance and cleanliness • Provided cutout windows in RV staff doors to facilitate vision during egress • Replaced circuit board for RV elevators • Installed wood chair rail in MP and WBL meeting rooms and other public areas • Monitored SV project install and operations • Updated camera server OS and software at all locations
<p>Adult Programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop programming infrastructure • Develop evaluation tools • Implement program set up procedures • Continue history programming • Develop book club programming • Write Senior programming plan (LM) 	<p>Kristi Saksvig</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented program set up procedures • Presented 15 history programs attended by 1,016 people • Partnered with OLLI, White Bear Historical Society, MN History Theatre, Shoreview Historical Society • Reached a diverse, non-traditional audience with both BLM and Winter Sports programming • Evaluated current book clubs and began developing a philosophy for what it means to be a library-sponsored book club <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented 15 history programs attended by 960 people • Partnered with New Brighton Area Historical Society, White Bear Historical Society, OLLI • Developed infrastructure and leadership for new senior programming partner <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented 10 history programs attended by 804 people • Partnered with Roseville Community Education, White Bear Lake Area Historical Society, OLLI, League of Women Voters of

	<p>Roseville Area, Harriet Walker Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Roseville/Shoreview Human Rights Commissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reached a diverse, non-traditional audience with <i>A Good Time for the Truth</i> community conversation • Introduced a history book club at Roseville bringing us closer to our goal of having a book club at each branch <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented 12 history programs attended by 825 people • Partnered with OLLI, White Bear Historical Society, Shoreview Historical Society • Streamlined Community Program Room booking procedures • Reviewed PLA's program evaluation tools. Discussed assessments to ensure racial equity in library programming • Discussed senior programming and made the recommendation for senior liaisons at regional libraries
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4. Promote Economic Prosperity and Racial Justice.

<p>Economic Prosperity Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand info literacy program (JL) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expand open labs ○ Expand downloadable tables ○ Incorporate into staff schedule (LW) ○ Expand outreach ○ Add adult maker space programs ○ Update software/hardware for programming(CW) • Expand Life Skills programming and partnerships (CarrieW) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expand language circles to MP ○ Expand Corrections Partnership (MR) • Develop waiver programs (MR) • Expand Social Services Support (PH) 	<p>Library Director</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided 41 computer and tech classes to 330 students • Provided 84 open computer and tech labs to 439 students • Completed rotation of Roseville, Maplewood, and Shoreview staff in open computer and tech labs • Successfully piloted Adult Makerspace at Maplewood—now offered weekly • Provided info tables promoting downloadable Purchased MAC for staff to use during one to one sessions resources at Roseville and Shoreview totaling 122 interactions • Offered 69 life skills programs, attended by 1,378 people • Partnered with Roseville Economic Development Authority to offer two workshops on solar panels for the home • Partnered with Ramsey County Public Health to offer a Fix-it Clinic • Continued to offer MNsure Navigator assistance • Offered walk-in job seeker assistance • Held free walk-in tax help with AARP volunteers
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with City & County Credit Union to offer 2 financial literacy workshops • Offered weekly community resource advocate/social worker help • Held weekly conversation circles • Had 2 investor's discussion forums • Partnered with Goodwill Easter Seals to offer a career panel presentation • Provide materials to RCCF • Provide monthly visits to RCCF • Facilitated a Big Read book discussion at the RCCF with 19 participants <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered 44 computer and tech classes to 363 students • Provided 88 open computer and tech labs to 384 students • Offered 13 Adult Makerspace sessions to 52 students • Provided bimonthly visits to Volunteers of America ex-offender re-entry facility. • Attended Como Family Safety Fair to offer Internet Safety tips to 31 community members • Offered 80 life skills programs, attended by 513 people • Partnered with Roseville Economic Development Authority to offer two workshops on solar panels for the home • Partnered with Ramsey County Public Health to offer a <i>Fix-it Clinic</i> at SV • Continued to offer MNSure Navigator assistance at MV, MP, and RV • Held free walk-in tax help with AARP volunteers at MP • Partnered with City & County Credit Union to offer 2 financial literacy workshops • Offered weekly community resource advocate/social worker help at MP • Re-established community resource/social worker hours at RV • Held weekly conversation circles at SV and RV • Had 2 investor's discussion forums at RV • Offered weekly <i>Conversation Circles for English Language Learners</i> at SV and RV • Met with Allina board in conjunction with the Friends to review the WIC grant and ask for continued sponsorship • Met with SPPL to consider partnership and expansion of WIC outreach program • Met with Assistant Division Director of RC Community Corrections and SPPL to discuss joint outreach to individuals under supervision • Continued Parent Read outreach to RCCF
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distributed gun locks at RV and SV as part of the Ramsey County Gun Safety Initiative <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered 87 Life Skills programs, attended by 727 people • Partnered with Roseville Economic Development Authority to offer RV workshops on seasonal home and yard maintenance • Partnered with Ramsey County Public Health to offer a <i>Fix-it Clinic</i> at NB • Continued to offer MNsure Navigator assistance at MP and RV • Continued weekly <i>Conversation Circles for English Language Learners</i> at SV and RV • Partnered with the Roseville Area League of Women Voters to present Ramsey County Elections Manager, Joe Mansky, who spoke on elections and voter outreach. • Held first <i>Criminal Expungement Clinic</i> at RV • Offered weekly community resource advocate/social worker help at MP and RV • Offered two <i>Financial Coaching & Credit</i> sessions at RV • Started offering investors' discussion forums after a two-month summer hiatus • Held the first three workshops, in a series of five, on <i>Simple Steps to Start Your Business</i>, presented by SCORE • Collaborated with Roseville Community Health Awareness Team (CHAT) to host first health literacy workshop in a series of three • Continued offering presentations in the <i>Dementia: Caring & Coping</i> speaker series • Continued MP social work hours and added hours to RV • Offered 37 computer and tech classes to 313 students • Offered 85 open computer and tech labs to 395 students • Offered 9 Adult Makerspace sessions to 28 attendees • Hosted 21 ESL teachers from Roseville Adult Learning Center for library digital literacy resources presentation • Piloted monthly drop-in tech help lab at the White Bear Area Senior Center • Continued bimonthly visits to Volunteers of America ex-offender re-entry facility teaching digital literacy and job readiness skills <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided 34 computer and tech classes to 257 students • Provided 88 open computer and tech labs to 427 students
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offered 10 Adult Makerspace sessions to 45 attendees • Offered 7 additional pop-up cloudLibrary downloadable help labs at 6 libraries to 19 students • Added new classes <i>Tweet (and Facebook) Better!</i> and <i>Search Engine Optimization</i> • Offered 151 programs, attended by 907 people • Continued to offer MNsure Navigator assistance at MP and RV • Continued offering weekly <i>Conversation Circles for English Language Learners</i> at RV • Continued offering <i>Criminal Expungement Clinics</i> at RV • Offered three <i>Financial Coaching & Credit</i> sessions at RV • Continued monthly investors' discussion forums • Held two workshops for entrepreneurs, in a series of five, on <i>Simple Steps to Start Your Business</i>, presented by SCORE • Collaborated with Roseville Community Health Awareness Team (CHAT) to host two health literacy workshops • Continued offering presentations in the <i>Dementia: Caring & Coping Speaker Series</i> • Continued MP and RV social work hours • Held <i>Advanced Care Planning workshop</i>, with Pro Bono "Wheels of Justice" bus available for consultation and help with forms • Partnered with Roseville Police Department to offer <i>Identity Fraud Protection</i> seminar and <i>Coffee with a Cop</i> • Keystone Community Services offered self-sufficiency workshops at MP and RV • Partnered with Twin Cities Wild Ones for film screening of an environmental education documentary followed by discussion
<p>Racial Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the racial diversity of staff, volunteers and Library Board • Increase the cultural competency of the staff, volunteers and Library Board • Ensure the facilities, collections, policies, programs and services reflect the community • Provide opportunities for communities of color to have a voice in library services • Develop communications outreach plan 	<p>Library Director</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed racial equity training requirements for staff • Planned RE sessions for in-service day • Identified local organizations working on issues • Continued work with selection of diverse materials • Continued work with diverse program with over 360 participants in the Black Lives Matter programs • Assisted in recruitment of a diverse candidate pool for the Library Board <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted a RE Book Club attended by 37 staff using <i>Between the World and Me</i> • Conducted a RE training on the banning a picture book, attended by 54 staff • Presented 2 sessions to RC Human Services on Library RE work • Developed RE and Inclusion Statement • Ensured RE language in Director posting • Received a Ramsey County Workforce Statistics report that indicates a 3% increase in the racial diversity of library staff from January 2015 to January 2016. <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented <i>Community Conversation: A Good Time for the Truth</i> at RV, attended by 144 • Collected and posted Racial Equity Resources on website; promoted via web banner • Attended Intentional Social Interactions including Community Conversation at Fairview Community Center; DecisionPoint2016 (multiple staff members) • Met with Marquita Stephens, Roseville Schools Community Engagement Coordinator • Completed 2 RE trainings for 28% of staff; one training for 44% of staff (as of June 2016) <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented Racial Equity and Inclusion statement and Principles in Practice at Staff In-Service day • Hosted Racial Equity Book Club at In-Service Day with <i>A Good Time for the Truth</i> • Presented <i>Talking with Young Children About Race</i> and <i>Racially Diverse Books for Youth</i> • Invested \$5,000 on picture books that feature children of color • Began recruitment for open board position
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5. Ensure Stewardship of Public Resources.

<p>Friends of the Library</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist to increase fundraising • Develop SV capital campaign • Promote Friends events • Expand grant writing 	<p>Library Director</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked together to ensure the success of the Annual Gala raising \$35k • Received \$70,000 in programming grants • Received \$28,000 in youth outreach grants • Received \$35,000 in collections grants • Worked together to determine SV Capital Campaign fundraising goals <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with the Friends to hold the Spring Book Sale on April 20-24 at RV • Participated in the Friends Annual Luncheon on April 30 featuring author Jonathan Odell • Held the RCL Book It! 5K Walk/Run on May 21 with a total of 260 participants and
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	<p>volunteers; netted over \$7,000 in support of the Summer Reading Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted an Open House at WB with the Friends on May 14 to showcase the Capital Campaign-funded art that has been added to the library <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilized support from the Friends to expand Summer Reading Program outreach, reaching an additional 1,600 students at local schools Participated in SV Capital Campaign through book cart drill team appearance in Slice of Shoreview parade Promoted and participated in Gallery 96 Raku Firings to raise funds for SV art hanging system <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up and helped staff the Shoreview Library surplus sale resulting in \$14,000 in revenue Co-presented with Friends to North Suburban Kiwanis Club, which gave significant donation Gave presentation and tour to donors from Arden Hills/Shoreview Rotary Club
<p>Library Volunteers (HH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct quarterly meetings for coordinators Develop newsletter Developed skilled volunteer job descriptions Redo Volunteer Guide Develop homebound services 	<p>Lynn Wyman</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruited volunteers for the Kindergarten Library Card Party in January Provided a total of 4,019 hours of volunteer assistance Held recognition event at MV <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruited volunteers to assist with the Friends 5K Walk/Run, including corporate sponsorship from the Shoreview Target Provided brunch for 70 volunteers at SV and RV in recognition of their service to the library Recognized all volunteers with the gift of potted flowers Provided a total of 4,191 hours of volunteer assistance <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted volunteer recognition lunches at NB and MP Provided a total of 3,979 hours of volunteer assistance <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed a job description for Handyman/Handyperson volunteers Recruited volunteers to provide homebound services to two additional patrons Recruited 67 volunteers to assist with the SV library move

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided a total of 3,774 hours of volunteer assistance in quarter 4 • Provided a total of 24,170 hours from library and Friends volunteers in 2016
Staff Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve tech skills • Expand use of staff in tech labs • Require racial equity training • Provide combined desk training • Offer community engagement training 	Lynn Wyman 1st Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established racial equity training requirements for staff for 2016 • Sent 10 staff to the Library Technology Conference in March • Provided community engagement training for 5 administrative and management staff • Provided 391 hours of training to 58 staff at 52 workshops and other training opportunities 2nd Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held an In-Service Day with a focus on racial equity and other Work Plan initiatives, attended by 111 staff • Sent 6 staff to the Public Library Association's biannual conference • Convened the Continuing Education Task Force for MLA to plan the MLA 2017 Conference through RCL teen librarian Amy Boese, MLA president • Provided 870 hours of training to 127 staff at 51 workshops and other training opportunities 3rd Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved to RC LMS system for training registration and recording • Saw completion of mandatory Information Security training by all staff, except two intermittent librarians who are assigned to complete the training when they next work • Participated in the MLA annual conference by sending 11 staff, 2 of them MLA officers, 7 of them conference presenters • Provided 408 hours of training to 149 staff at 51 workshops and other training opportunities 4th Quarter Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held a full-day In-Service Day on October 10 for 117 library staff • Provided 1,129 hours of training to 125 staff at 97 workshops and other training opportunities in quarter 4 • Saw completion of 2016 training requirements, including Racial Equity training requirements, by 99% of the permanent staff • Had librarians work tech lab rotations throughout 2016 • Provided 2,806 hours of staff training in 2016

<p>Weeds and Donations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop weeding policy • Find storage solution • Investigate recycling options • Reconsider donations 	<p>Lynn Wyman</p> <p>1st Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convened a task force to revise the Collection Management Policy • Researched used book donation options • Developed a focus group script and questions for a Friends' Used Book Management Study <p>2nd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveyed MELSA libraries on strategies and procedures for managing weeds and donations • Conducted focus groups on weeds and donations for book sale managers and book store volunteers <p>3rd Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed the Used Book Sale Management Study • Met with the Friends to discuss the study's implications for weeds and donations and potential procedural changes <p>4th Quarter Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researched online book sale options, prompting a contract between the Friends and Thrift Books • Implemented new Friends' procedures for selling weeded collection items • Implemented Thrift Books shipping procedures • Worked with the Friends to draft new donations guidelines
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Memorandum

To: Ramsey County Library Board

From: Mary Larson

Date: March 7, 2017

Subject: Fourth Quarter 2016 Financial Report

Attached is the 4th quarter 2016 financial report. Highlights include:

- ❖ Property tax revenues for 2016 slightly exceeded projections, with County Program Aid being nearly 6% of the revenue received.
- ❖ Library fine revenues fell short of projections by more than \$70,000 due to a decrease in circulation statistics and the growing percentage of checkouts for electronic materials, which do not generate fines. Projections for library fine revenues in 2018 and 2019 have been reduced accordingly. The Revenue Recapture program collected over \$75,000 in past due fines, about 15% of total library fine revenue for 2016.
- ❖ Building & Structures revenue was below projections for 2016 due to the negotiated rent decrease for the Caféine Thai Café at Maplewood that occurred after the budget was developed.
- ❖ Despite moderate declines in rental book and rental DVD revenues, the collections continue to be popular and self-supporting. Staff will continue to monitor usage and revenues as newer format options, including downloadable and streaming video, erode circulation of the rental DVD collection.
- ❖ Operating expenditures were within budget overall. Savings in personnel costs comprised the bulk of the year-end balances, and resulted from staff vacancies, retirements and careful use of intermittent staff. The Library's year-end reserve list, including outstanding encumbrances from 2016 and special projects for 2017, is on the Library Board's consent agenda for ratification.
- ❖ Library Gift Fund revenue was up due to the successful fundraising efforts of the Friends' Capital Campaign for Shoreview, and the Friends support of Library programming and collections.

LIBRARY OPERATIONS

CURRENT BUDGET YEAR WITH COMPARATIVE PRIOR YEAR

YEAR TO DATE THRU DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

	2016					2015			
	Original Annual Budget	Adjusted Annual Budget	Year to Date Actual Cash Receipts/ Disbursements	Actual % of Budget Year to Date	Variance (Over)/Under Adjusted Budget YTD	Adjusted Annual Budget	Year to Date Actual Cash Receipts/ Disbursements	Actual % of Budget Year to Date	Variance (Over)/Under Adjusted Budget YTD
<u>Revenue</u>									
Taxes	10,070,528.00	10,070,528.00	9,527,782.49	95%	542,745.51	8,893,946.00	8,789,018.69	99%	104,927.31
County Program Aid	0.00	0.00	553,122.74	NA	(553,122.74)	526,639.00	535,054.32	102%	(8,415.32)
Fines	575,000.00	575,000.00	502,561.44	87%	72,438.56	600,000.00	537,155.90	90%	62,844.10
MELSA	215,000.00	215,000.00	200,832.00	93%	14,168.00	200,000.00	211,163.00	106%	(11,163.00)
PERA Rate Increase Aid	21,652.00	21,652.00	21,652.00	100%	0.00	21,652.00	21,652.00	100%	0.00
Duplicating Copies/Sales	73,000.00	73,000.00	71,835.41	98%	1,164.59	70,000.00	70,130.19	100%	(130.19)
Interest on Investments	2,000.00	2,000.00	9,485.32	474%	(7,485.32)	9,500.00	1,328.82	14%	8,171.18
Building & Structures (Rent)	120,000.00	120,000.00	102,785.88	86%	17,214.12	120,000.00	97,640.22	81%	22,359.78
Recoveries	0.00	68,017.53	70,248.53	103%	(2,231.00)	93,654.81	94,145.74	NA	(490.93)
Unallocated General Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	0.00	121,974.00	121,974.00	100%	0.00
Total Revenue	11,077,180.00	11,145,197.53	11,060,305.81	99%	84,891.72	10,657,365.81	10,479,262.88	98%	178,102.93
<u>Expenditures</u>									
Salaries*	5,635,581.00	5,635,581.00	5,242,434.72	93%	393,146.28	5,399,361.00	5,219,722.28	97%	179,638.72
Fringe Benefits*	1,977,897.00	1,977,897.00	1,960,081.64	99%	17,815.36	1,951,502.00	1,965,919.02	101%	(14,417.02)
Other Services & Charges	2,425,702.00	2,425,702.00	2,317,766.15	96%	107,935.85	2,204,114.01	2,195,591.94	100%	8,522.07
Supplies	133,000.00	133,000.00	132,396.19	100%	603.81	151,000.00	150,778.85	100%	221.15
Capital Outlay	55,000.00	55,000.00	24,391.46	44%	30,608.54	106,388.80	50,951.23	48%	55,437.57
Books, Periodicals, Etc.	850,000.00	850,000.00	811,552.45	95%	38,447.55	845,000.00	834,040.85	99%	10,959.15
	11,077,180.00	11,077,180.00	10,488,622.61	95%	588,557.39	10,657,365.81	10,417,004.17	98%	240,361.64
 Inc/(Dec) to Fund Balance			 571,683.20				 62,258.71		

* 2016 Salary and benefit expenditures through paydate 1/27/17.

* 2015 Salary and benefit expenditures through paydate 1/15/16.

**LIBRARY OPERATIONS
CURRENT YEAR DISBURSEMENTS OUT OF RESERVES
YEAR TO DATE THRU DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	2016			Actual as a
	Reserve	Year to Date	Balance	% of
	Amount	Actual Cash	Unexpended	Reserve
		Disbursements	12/31/16	Year to Date
<u>Expenditures</u>				
2015 Operating Budget Reserves	62,250.00	52,882.07	9,367.93	85%
2014 Operating Budget Reserves	40,000.00	31,179.62	8,820.38	78%
2013 Operating Budget Reserves	51,500.00	46,129.85	5,370.15	90%

**LIBRARY GRANTS AND OTHER SPECIAL PROJECTS
CURRENT YEAR DISBURSEMENTS
YEAR TO DATE THRU DECEMBER 31, 2016**

	2016			
	Current Adjusted Budget Amount	Actual Cash Disbursements	Balance Unexpended 12/31/16	Actual as a % of Budget To Date
<u>Expenditures</u>				
2016 MELSA Technology Grant	104,000.00	0.00	104,000.00	0%
2016 MnLINK Gateway Server Grant	7,702.11	7,702.11	0.00	100%
2015 Ramsey County Tech Applications Grant	109,487.93	109,487.93	0.00	100%
2015 MELSA Technology Grant	100,000.00	99,747.00	253.00	100%
2014 MELSA Technology Grant	271,000.00	231,926.20	39,073.80	86%
2013 MELSA Technology Grant	310,000.00	310,000.00	0.00	100%

**OTHER LIBRARY FUNDS
YEAR TO DATE RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS
THRU DECEMBER 31, 2016**

<u>Fund</u>	2016			
	Cash Balance Beginning of Year	Cash Receipts Year to Date	Year to Date Actual Cash Disbursements	Cash Balance as of 12/31/16
Rental Book Revenue	27,644.49	14,937.56	14,818.11	27,763.94
Rental DVD Revenue*	31,549.23	65,475.71	62,992.16	34,032.78
Rental Video Game Revenue*	1,576.41	0.00	0.00	1,576.41
Library Gift Fund	277,493.29	306,908.13	207,131.04	377,270.38
Roseville Library Capital Campaign Gift Fund	26,206.62	0.00	3,497.50	22,709.12

SUMMARY OF GIFTS RECEIVED

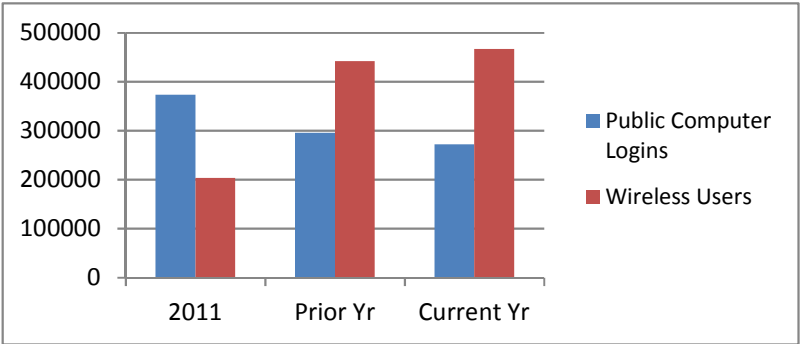
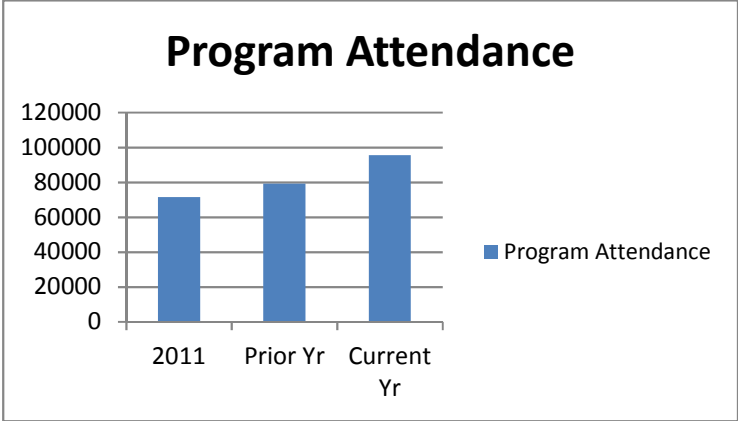
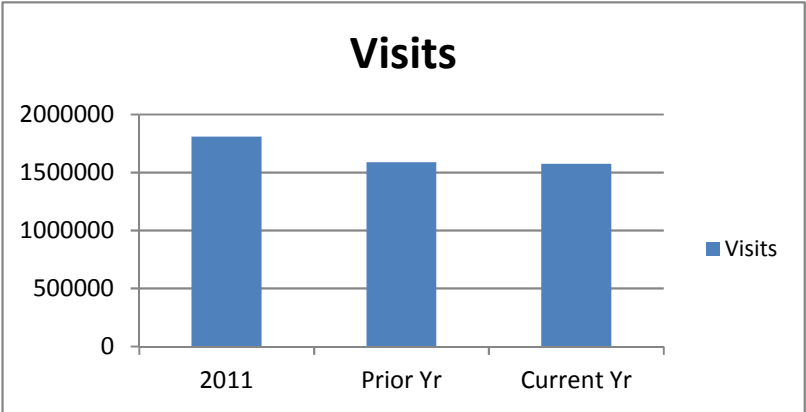
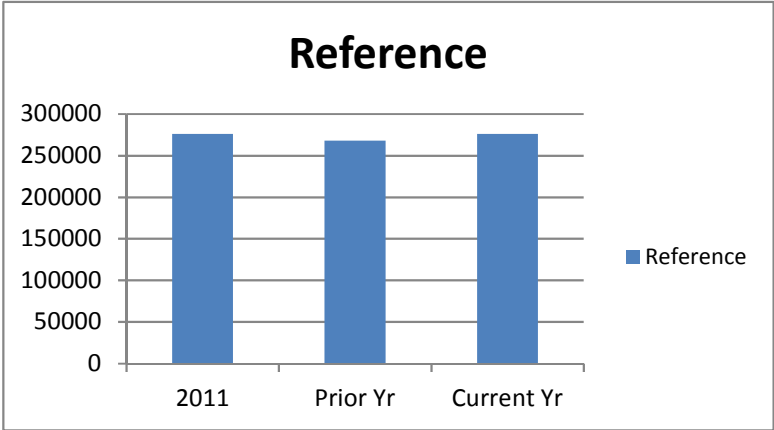
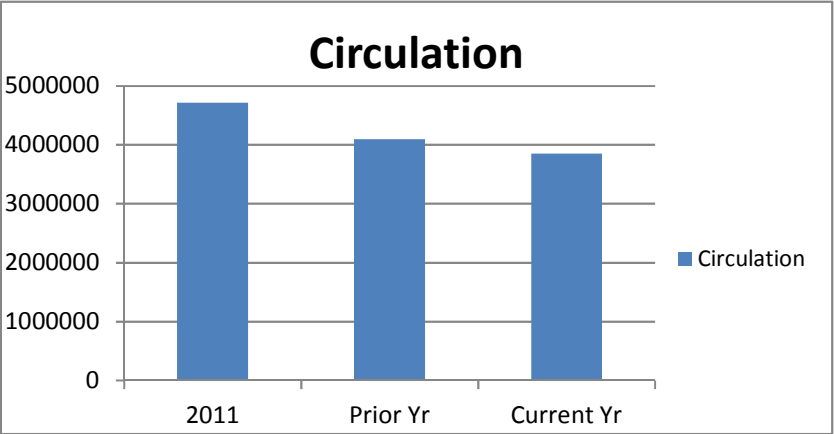
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2016

Donor	Purpose	Branch	Amount
Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries	Children's Sensory Friendly Materials	SV - Capital	\$1,000.00
	Lending Collection	SV - Capital	\$1,000.00
	3D Printer and Accessories	SV - Capital	\$4,000.00
	Children's Museum Installation	SV - Capital	\$10,000.00
J. Keith & Barbara MacKenzie	Books	WB	\$500.00
MELSA	Legacy Programming	System	\$461.60
	Teen Programming	System	\$2,504.00
Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries	Kindergarten Card Party Books	System	\$1,200.00
	Children's Museum Installations	SV - Capital	\$16,000.00
Sabrina Fay	Thrivent Matching Gift	SV	\$125.00
Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries	Summer Reading Program	System	\$5,000.00
	Technology Literacy/Adult Life Skills	System	\$6,250.00
	Children's Programming	System	\$1,250.00
	Teen Programming	System	\$1,000.00
	Newsletter	System	\$1,500.00
	Volunteer Program	System	\$1,250.00
	Employee Development	System	\$1,250.00
	Robert J. Beugen Fund	System	\$500.00
	Memory Minder Kits	RV & SV	\$1,000.00
Kris O'Brien	Children's Programming	NB & RV	\$345.00
Red Balloon Bookshop	Teen Programming	System	\$133.80
Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries	Teen Room Technology	SV - Capital	\$3,000.00
	Children's Interactives	SV - Capital	\$5,010.00
	Children's Lending Collection	SV - Capital	\$10,000.00
	Art	SV - Capital	\$10,000.00
TOTAL:			\$84,279.40

Statistical Trends 2016 Final Report

- Shoreview was closed for more than a month at the end of the year, which will have a negative impact on system-wide annual statistics.
- System-wide 2016 circulation was down 6%. This reflects an ongoing nation-wide trend of declining overall circulation.
- Circulation of electronic materials rose more than 5% in 2016, and now accounts for 9.4% of total circulation. Our e-book holdings now exceed 22,000 items. E-audio circulation was up over 32% while holdings were up about 24%. In addition, RCL patrons have access to significant e-book and e-audio content through our MELSA peers.
- Library website visits were up 6% in 2016. Physical visits across the system were down 1%. Roseville had an increase in physical visits of 2.5%. Web visits were 13% higher than physical visits in 2016.
- There were 16,886 new users registered in 2016, up about 5.6% from the previous year.
- Use of the Library's wireless network continues to grow – and is approaching half a million users per year, increasing over 5% in 2016. In-house computer use was down about 8% as more people bring in their own devices.
- The number of holds placed was down 2.7%, which continues an ongoing trend. Decreasing usage of the DVD collection probably contributes to this phenomenon.
- Programming remained strong. Total program attendance was up 20% over just one year.
- Usage of reservable library meeting spaces by outside groups continues to increase – up 12% to 2,158 bookings.
- Publishers Weekly reports that sales of print books *rose* again for the third straight year. The increase was 3.3% last year on top of the 2.8% increase the previous year and 2.4% the year before that.

Core Service Trends -- 2016



Branches by Quarter 2016

Total materials circulated

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	167,767	168,468	176,574	148,123	660,932
Mounds View	45,742	46,345	48,196	42,652	182,935
New Brighton	62,426	62,284	65,004	65,042	254,756
North St. Paul	27,692	27,678	29,654	29,120	114,144
Roseville	376,136	364,584	374,269	345,086	1,460,075
Shoreview	128,467	135,287	141,278	76,795	481,827
White Bear Lake	76,530	77,219	83,743	72,173	309,665
Tech Services	6,449	6,728	6,495	4,586	24,258
Other					
Virtual	94,933	89,122	91,540	86,731	362,326
Total	986,142	977,715	1,016,753	870,308	3,850,918

Children's materials circulated

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	63,517	66,273	71,500	56,515	257,805
Mounds View	22,609	22,879	24,070	19,772	89,330
New Brighton	27,940	27,133	30,105	30,111	115,289
North St. Paul	8,699	9,335	10,734	10,736	39,504
Roseville	161,105	163,081	170,840	148,977	644,003
Shoreview	54,449	62,091	67,053	35,254	218,847
White Bear Lake	33,616	37,019	41,164	32,120	143,919
Tech Services	902	920	932	695	3,449
Other	4,076	4,277	4,194	3,152	15,699
Virtual					
Total	376,913	393,008	420,592	337,332	1,527,845

Registrations

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	725	670	724	745	2,864
Mounds View	194	213	199	200	806
New Brighton	210	251	263	282	1,006
North St. Paul	637	82	118	163	1,000
Roseville	2,144	1,448	2,324	1,639	7,555
Shoreview	294	303	379	527	1,503
White Bear Lake	325	301	345	444	1,415
Tech Services	186	206	238	107	737
Other					
Virtual					
Total	4,715	3,474	4,590	4,107	16,886

Total reference

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	12,766	9,854	14,846	12,883	50,349
Mounds View	2,821	3,614	3,887	3,887	14,209
New Brighton	4,641	3,731	6,097	4,940	19,409
North St. Paul	5,291	4,082	4,342	3,744	17,459
Roseville	33,800	28,912	34,424	28,457	125,593
Shoreview	8,073	6,916	9,516	5,486	29,991
White Bear Lake	4,862	4,251	5,876	3,861	18,850
Total	72,254	61,360	78,988	63,258	275,860

Visits

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	83,677	85,643	90,031	75,136	334,487
Mounds View	18,030	19,997	20,351	16,495	74,873
New Brighton	25,235	26,802	27,616	27,398	107,051
North St. Paul	9,575	9,678	10,424	9,267	38,944
Roseville	160,605	167,799	183,882	161,263	673,549
Shoreview	48,067	60,563	56,501	192,908	192,908
White Bear Lake	36,118	38,231	43,108	35,386	152,843
Total	381,307	408,713	431,913	352,722	1,574,655

Meeting room use by outside groups

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	202	190	218	210	820
Mounds View	14	32	26	20	92
New Brighton	0	0	0	0	0
North St. Paul	0	0	0	0	0
Roseville	235	270	221	218	944
Shoreview	45	42	45	21	153
White Bear Lake	45	34	40	30	149
Total	541	568	550	499	2,158

Public computer logins

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	16,493	16,931	17,959	14,414	65,797
Mounds View	2,542	2,714	2,687	2,347	10,290
New Brighton	5,305	5,553	5,475	5,524	21,857
North St. Paul	1,955	2,018	1,962	1,713	7,648
Roseville	33,450	31,993	33,893	30,630	129,966
Shoreview	5,151	5,600	5,770	2,983	19,504
White Bear Lake	4,131	4,288	4,849	3,985	17,253
Total	69,027	69,097	72,595	61,596	272,315

Hours of computer use

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	16,517	16,681	17,183	14,171	64,553
Mounds View	2,425	2,653	2,580	2,052	9,711
New Brighton	4,351	4,650	4,579	4,705	18,286
North St. Paul	1,752	1,795	1,729	1,469	6,755
Roseville	32,533	30,675	32,627	29,579	125,394
Shoreview	3,927	4,453	4,556	2,479	15,414
White Bear Lake	3,687	3,408	3,700	3,222	14,017
Total	65,192	64,316	66,935	57,686	254,129

Wireless users

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	20,982	24,725	27,892	25,725	99,324
Mounds View	1,249	1,623	1,833	1,690	4,316
New Brighton	3,056	3,439	3,931	4,316	14,742
North St. Paul	639	1,172	1,066	925	3,802
Roseville	64,338	68,217	72,505	87,826	292,886
Shoreview	5,667	7,500	7,661	6,616	27,444
White Bear Lake	4,085	5,532	6,186	6,589	22,392
Total	100,016	112,208	121,074	133,687	466,985

Volunteer hours

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	771.40	756.00	676.65	657.95	3,019.45
Mounds View	67.19	84.20	98.10	55.40	306.64
New Brighton	205.50	182.00	138.00	175.75	704.25
North St. Paul	25.00	24.50	27.50	30.00	107.00
Roseville	2,053.18	2,230.59	2,119.20	1,890.22	8,278.43
Shoreview	659.35	623.30	653.30	722.05	2,733.33
White Bear Lake	242.45	246.65	267.25	242.80	999.15
Administration	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Technical Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	4,024.07	4,147.24	3,980.00	3,774.17	16,148.25

Children's programs**Children's program attendance**

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	48	72	80	55	256	1,694	2,217	4,346	1,834	12,071
Mounds View	14	33	35	37	120	495	1,294	1,604	1,023	4,582
New Brighton	34	24	36	30	136	1,100	1,061	2,202	1,917	6,280
North St. Paul	18	24	34	63	139	999	994	1,733	1,960	5,686
Roseville	126	116	128	105	506	4,707	4,529	7,487	4,730	22,851
Shoreview	51	60	91	41	229	1,495	2,346	4,309	1,043	7,927
White Bear Lake	30	46	55	56	187	1,480	1,855	3,046	2,226	8,583
Admin	0	1				0	2900			2900
SRP										
Total	321	376	459	387	1,573	11,975	17,196	24,727	14,733	70,880

Teen programs**Teen program attendance**

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	76	179	172	99	526	1,029	1,811	1,045	935	4,820
Mounds View	2	2	2	4	10	12	2	2	105	121
New Brighton	1	1	0	0	5	16	8	0	0	24
North St. Paul	8	8	40	43	95	16	28	139	91	274
Roseville	157	157	137	147	625	1,663	3,158	1,574	2,486	8,881
Shoreview	1	1	1	0	4	3	2	20	0	25
White Bear Lake	2	2	89	124	304	4	664	346	1,126	2,140
Admin	0	0	0			0	0	0		
SRP										
Total	247	711	441	417	1,569	2,743	5,673	3,126	4,743	16,285

Adult programs**Adult program attendance**

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD Total
Maplewood	47	71	52	82	252	275	455	270	345	1,345
Mounds View	16	5	9	6	36	44	31	56	26	157
New Brighton	5	3	4	14	26	23	96	78	160	357
North St. Paul	6	3	2	3	14	107	44	10	18	179
Roseville	125	105	124	162	516	1,573	1,060	1,590	1,836	6,059
Shoreview	42	40	37	31	150	484	313	227	186	1,210
White Bear Lake	30	44	35	28	137	489	649	308	266	1,712
Admin	0					0				
Winter Reading										
Total	271	271	263	326	1,131	2,995	2,648	2,539	2,837	11,019

Branches by Year/System by Quarter

Total circulation

Children's circulation

Volunteer hours

Location	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016
Maplewood	881,142	758,373	660,932	-12.8%	342,456	297,408	257,805	-13.3%	3,717	3,192	3,019	-5.4%
Mounds View	216,688	197,189	182,935	-7.2%	106,180	97,857	89,330	-8.7%	448	429	307	-28.4%
New Brighton	275,896	258,002	254,756	-1.3%	119,750	117,366	115,289	-1.8%	688	746	704	-5.6%
North St Paul	136,077	123,346	114,144	-7.5%	48,313	43,263	39,504	-8.7%	151	115	107	-7.0%
Roseville	1,695,231	1,548,530	1,460,075	-5.7%	707,600	669,320	644,003	-3.8%	8,128	8,413	8,278	-1.6%
Shoreview	655,816	594,303	481,827	-18.9%	283,638	266,139	218,847	-17.8%	2,186	2,482	2,733	10.1%
White Bear Lake	133,629	246,439	309,665	25.7%	51,694	112,261	143,919	28.2%	681	881	999	13.4%
E-material	290,781	344,169	362,326	5.3%								
Other					20,181	19,329	15,699	-18.8%				
Support Services	23,339	24,657	24,258	-1.6%	3,247	3,450	3,449	0.0%	0			
System Quarter 1	1,098,366	1,004,193	986,142	-1.8%	402,249	382,023	401,213	5.0%	4,103	3,787	3,844	1.5%
System Quarter 2	1,098,221	1,027,357	977,715	-4.8%	441,141	415,800	393,008	-5.5%	4,607	4,383	4,182	-4.6%
System Quarter 3	1,125,334	1,015,085	1,016,753	0.2%	457,876	456,736	420,592	-7.9%	3,646	4,223	3,980	-5.8%
System Quarter 4	986,678	958,283	870,308	-9.2%	381,793	371,834	337,332	-9.3%	3,623	3,865	3,774	-2.4%
Annual Total	4,308,599	4,095,008	3,850,918	-6.0%	1,683,059	1,626,393	1,527,845	-6.1%	15,979	16,258	15,780	-2.9%

Express checkout percentages

Visits

Meeting room use by outside groups

Location	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016
Maplewood	90.2%	92.3%	91.6%	-0.8%	392,856	358,961	334,487	-6.8%	748	789	820	3.9%
Mounds View	78.9%	86.0%	84.8%	-1.4%	84,155	79,214	74,873	-5.5%	34	64	92	43.8%
New Brighton	92.2%	91.7%	91.4%	-0.3%	100,087	97,150	107,051	10.2%	0	0	0	0.0%
North St Paul	67.3%	67.3%	63.0%	-6.4%	57,040	49,112	38,944	-20.7%	0	0	0	0.0%
Roseville	88.2%	88.9%	88.6%	-0.3%	666,615	657,180	673,549	2.5%	829	849	944	11.2%
Shoreview	94.7%	96.4%	85.1%	-11.7%	242,687	226,231	192,908	-14.7%	151	135	153	13.3%
White Bear Lake	67.4%	87.8%	89.5%	1.9%	58,055	120,677	152,843	26.7%	39	87	149	71.3%
System Quarter 1	87.4%	86.9%	85.1%	-2.1%	399,748	371,647	381,307	2.6%	484	474	541	14.1%
System Quarter 2	87.0%	86.2%	86.0%	-0.2%	410,841	407,336	408,731	0.3%	456	484	568	17.4%
System Quarter 3	89.9%	88.5%	86.3%	-2.5%	434,937	439,168	431,913	-1.7%	416	458	550	20.1%
System Quarter 4	88.2%	87.1%	81.9%	-6.0%	355,969	370,374	352,722	-4.8%	433	508	499	-1.8%
Annual Average	88.1%	87.2%	84.8%	-2.8%	1,601,495	1,588,525	1,574,673	-0.9%	1,789	1,924	2,158	12.2%

Public computer logins**Hours of computer use****Wireless users**

Location	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016
Maplewood	81,282	71,827	65,797	-8.4%	82,687	72,870	64,553	-11.4%	53,852	90,738	99,324	9.5%
Mounds View	12,512	11,210	10,290	-8.2%	10,929	10,366	9,711	-6.3%	4,263	5,809	6,395	10.1%
New Brighton	23,015	21,334	21,857	2.5%	18,336	17,528	18,286	4.3%	8,787	10,085	14,742	46.2%
North St Paul	8,890	7,308	7,648	4.7%	7,763	6,618	6,755	2.1%	16,602	2,941	3,802	29.3%
Roseville	150,998	145,915	129,966	-10.9%	151,916	144,467	125,394	-13.2%	206,233	294,802	292,886	-0.6%
Shoreview	25,883	25,267	19,504	-22.8%	20,689	20,692	15,414	-25.5%	18,704	22,515	27,444	21.9%
White Bear Lake	5,942	13,069	17,253	32.0%	4,337	10,100	14,017	38.8%	1,951	15,219	22,392	47.1%
System Quarter 1	72,910	71,286	69,027	-3.2%	72,568	71,922	65,193	-9.4%	78,265	94,685	100,016	5.6%
System Quarter 2	79,435	74,625	69,097	-7.4%	75,555	70,353	64,316	-8.6%	81,464	104,702	112,208	7.2%
System Quarter 3	84,345	80,082	72,595	-9.3%	79,771	76,276	66,935	-12.2%	75,495	123,140	121,074	-1.7%
System Quarter 4	71,832	69,937	61,596	-11.9%	68,764	64,091	57,686	-10.0%	75,168	119,582	133,687	11.8%
Annual Total	308,522	295,930	272,315	-8.0%	296,657	282,641	254,129	-10.1%	310,392	442,109	466,985	5.6%

Reference**Registrations****Hours open**

Location	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016
Maplewood	37,687	52,845	50,349	-4.7%	3,317	2,796	2,864	2.4%	3,150	3,166	3,177	0.3%
Mounds View	13,936	13,806	14,209	2.9%	1,035	805	806	0.1%	1,750	1,761	1,757	-0.2%
New Brighton	17,875	16,796	19,409	15.6%	831	860	1,006	17.0%	1,740	1,884	2,168	15.1%
North St Paul	12,324	14,014	17,459	24.6%	516	434	1,000	130.4%	1,750	1,768	1,771	0.2%
Roseville	130,663	121,784	125,593	3.1%	7,923	7,387	7,555	2.3%	3,150	3,166	3,184	0.6%
Shoreview	34,411	32,578	29,991	-7.9%	1,356	1,369	1,503	9.8%	2,900	2,740	2,249	-17.9%
White Bear Lake	10,439	16,107	18,850	17.0%	355	1,264	1,415	11.9%	957	1,638	2,259	37.9%
Technical Services					931	1,073	737	-31.3%				
System Quarter 1	69,758	67,899	72,254	6.4%	4,716	4,308	4,715	9.4%	3,994	3,586	4,142	15.5%
System Quarter 2	63,557	53,547	61,360	14.6%	3,915	3,816	3,474	-9.0%	4,046	4,193	4,315	2.9%
System Quarter 3	77,103	78,962	78,988	0.0%	4,131	4,438	4,590	3.4%	3,752	4,228	4,204	-0.6%
System Quarter 4	58,877	67,522	63,258	-6.3%	3,502	3,426	4,107	19.9%	3,605	4,116	3,904	-5.2%
Annual Total	269,295	267,930	275,860	3.0%	16,264	15,988	16,886	5.6%	15,397	16,123	16,565	2.7%

Website visits**Holds placed****E-materials circulated**

	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015- 2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016
Quarter 1	506,850	493,445	460,613	-6.7%	132,845	129,339	124,604	-3.7%	75,183	84,099	94,933	12.9%
Quarter 2	498,380	487,161	453,119	-7.0%	136,060	117,335	120,340	2.6%	69,143	81,967	89,112	8.7%
Quarter 3	555,451	488,440	457,605	-6.3%	123,509	122,436	118,043	-3.6%	73,802	90,090	91,540	1.6%
Quarter 4	512,593	456,473	671,176	47.0%	110,001	112,794	105,744	-6.3%	72,653	88,013	86,731	-1.5%
Annual Total	2,073,274	1,925,519	2,042,513	6.1%	502,415	481,904	468,731	-2.7%	290,781	344,169	362,316	5.3%

Incoming ILL**Outgoing ILL****Value of gifts added**

	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015- 2016	2014	2015	2016	%Change 2015-2016
Quarter 1	4,350	4,174	4,288	2.73%	5,709	5,564	5,743	3.22%	\$27,400.55	\$33,777.02	\$22,038.58	-34.8%
Quarter 2	4,335	4,050	4,092	1.04%	6,064	5,682	5,359	-5.68%	\$29,549.66	\$30,920.40	\$27,227.07	-11.9%
Quarter 3	4,172	4,122	3,919	-4.92%	5,407	5,894	5,230	-11.27%	\$31,708.83	\$30,953.86	\$20,854.77	-32.6%
Quarter 4	3,763	3,879	3,769	-2.84%	5,318	5,384	4,161	-22.72%	\$24,869.32	\$18,878.36	\$17,065.19	-9.6%
Annual Total	16,620	16,225	16,068	-1.0%	22,498	22,524	20,493	-9.0%	\$113,528.36	\$114,529.64	\$87,185.61	-23.9%

Ramsey County Library
Request for Library Board Action

Meeting Date
March 15, 2017

Action Requested
**Information &
Discussion**

Presented By
Julie Neville,
Property Manager

SUBJECT:

Annual Summary of Incidents for 2016

BACKGROUND:

Incidents have decreased significantly in 2016. Staff has been trained on when it is appropriate to complete an incident report form.

Incidents that did increase in 2016 were reports on teen behavior. The teen staff is very proactive and is working on ways to improve behavior in the facilities.

The libraries continue to see an uptick in the number of mental health incidents. Again, staff respond with a good deal of compassion and work to find resolutions.

Theft reports are down considerably.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

For information & discussion.

Incident Report Comparison First Quarter				
	2013	2014	2015	2016
New Brighton	6	3	0	2
Maplewood	10	4	9	12
Mounds View	12	2	5	1
North St. Paul	0	0	2	0
Roseville	25	19	12	20
Shoreview	4	2	1	6
White Bear Lake	5	2	0 (closed)	0
	62	32	29	41

Incident Report Comparison Second Quarter				
	2013	2014	2015	2016
New Brighton	5	1	4	0
Maplewood	7	7	18	14
Mounds View	7	1	4	2
North St. Paul	2	1	2	1
Roseville	16	19	22	18
Shoreview	7	2	3	2
White Bear Lake	4	3	9	5
	48	34	62	42

Incident Report Comparison Third Quarter				
	2013	2014	2015	2016
New Brighton	3	1	5	1
Maplewood	7	9	9	20
Mounds View	7	8	6	1
North St. Paul	0	1	3	0
Roseville	29	14	28	18
Shoreview	4	3	14	1
White Bear Lake	5	0 (closed)	6	4
	55	36	71	45

Incident Report Comparison Fourth Quarter				
	2013	2014	2015	2016
New Brighton	2	2	3	2
Maplewood	6	14	8	15
Mounds View	8	2	6	1
North St. Paul	3	1	0	0
Roseville	17	25	31	16
Shoreview	2	0	4	7
White Bear Lake	2	0 (closed)	6	0
	40	44	58	41

Totals	205	146	220	169
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Ramsey County Library

Request for Library Board Action

Meeting Date
March 15, 2017

Action Requested
Ratify Encumbrances

Presented By
Mary Larson,
Financial Manager

SUBJECT:
Year End Reserve List

BACKGROUND:

At the end of each budget year, all Ramsey County departments are required to submit a list of unpaid obligations and planned expenditures. Although library fine revenues were below projections, there is a surplus available for special projects. A summary of the Library's remaining 2016 obligations and proposed reserves is included below.

Because Library funding is restricted for Library use by State Statute, a separate fund balance is maintained. This fund balance covers operating expenditures during the first half of each year until property taxes are received and distributed. As the Library's budget grows, the fund balance must also increase to maintain adequate cash flow. For the 2016 reserve list, several projects were identified, with the balance of unexpended funds designated for the Library's fund balance.

2016 Funds Available:

Unexpended Appropriations	\$653,707
Tax Revenue Surplus	\$10,377
<u>Library Revenue Shortfall</u>	<u>(\$95,269)</u>
Total 2016 Surplus:	\$568,815

<u>Less:</u>	
Pending 2016 Book Orders	(\$16,650)
<u>Remaining 2016 Operational Invoices</u>	<u>(\$172,937)</u>
Total Pending 2016 Encumbrances:	(\$189,587)

<u>Potential Funds Available for Special Projects:</u>	<u>\$379,228</u>
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Proposed Special Projects:

RV Children's Garden	\$75,000
Refurbishment Fund	\$50,000
Program Equipment	\$25,000
<u>Collection Development</u>	<u>\$50,000</u>
Total of Proposed Projects:	\$200,000

Small balances also remain from the 2015 and 2014 reserves approved last year. The proposed reserves include:

Ramsey County Library

2015 Proposed Reserves:

Shoreview Opening Day Collection	\$1,300
Facility Rebates	\$7,500
Total 2015 Reserves:	\$8,800

2014 Proposed Reserves:

Technology Funding	\$8,500
Total 2014 Reserves:	\$8,500

ACTION REQUESTED:

To approve the 2016, 2015, and 2014 year-end encumbrances as proposed.

Ramsey County Library

Request for Library Board Action

Meeting Date
March 15, 2017

Action Requested
**Information &
Discussion**

Presented By
Jill Boldenow,
Library Director

SUBJECT:
2018-2019 Budget Timeline

BACKGROUND:

Jill Boldenow and Mary Larson attended the 2018-2019 budget kickoff meeting held on February 1, 2017. At the meeting, the timeline for the upcoming budget cycle was shared, along with instructions to complete a budget prioritization exercise that includes a 2.5% decrease in the tax levy for each year in the two-year budget. The timeline for this year's process is outlined below:

Budget Kickoff Meeting:	February 1, 2017
ECGI Service Team Budget Meeting:	February 24, 2017
Target Budgets due to Ramsey County Finance:	April 10, 2017
EGCI Service Team/Library Budget Meeting with County Manager and Finance Director:	April 17, 2017
Preliminary Proposed Budget set by County Manager:	June 5, 2017
County Manager Presents Proposed Budget to County Board of Commissioners:	August 8, 2017
County Board Budget Hearings on Proposed Service Team Budgets:	August 15-September 12, 2017
County Board Certifies Maximum Property Tax Levy:	September 19, 2017
Public Hearing on County Budget:	November 28, 2017
County Board Adoption of 2018 & 2019 Budgets And 2018 Property Tax Levy:	December 12, 2017

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
For information and discussion.

Request for Library Board Action

Ramsey County Library

Request for Library Board Action

Meeting Date
March 15, 2017

Action Requested
**Approve Budget
Priorities**

Presented By
**Jill Boldenow,
Library Director**

SUBJECT:

2018-2019 Budget Overview & Priorities

BACKGROUND:

Jill Boldenow and Mary Larson attended the 2018-2019 budget kickoff meeting held on February 1, 2017. At the meeting, County Manager Julie Kleinschmidt asked all departments to complete a strategic prioritization exercise with this year's budget process, to optimize programs and services that contribute to a vibrant community where all are valued and thrive. She asked all departments to collaborate within their service teams in preparing our 2018-2019 budget requests.

As part of the strategic exercise, all departments were directed to submit a levy target budget with a 2.5% decrease for 2018, and an additional 2.5% decrease for 2019, for a total levy decrease of 5% over two years. Departments must also absorb decreases in outside revenues, as well as increases in costs for County services such as property management costs, IT services and administrative overhead.

Operating cost increases include salary steps and career development increases; additional costs for fiber services at several locations previously served by the I-net at no cost; operating costs for the Library's ILS, including the new cloud-hosting agreement and costs related to the AMH at Shoreview; and typical inflationary increases for supplies, etc.

Library Fines, MELSA Revenue, and Buildings & Structures Revenue (coffee shop rent) projections were reduced to reflect actual revenues received in 2015 and 2016.

In order to reach the first year reduction of \$585,000, the Library would recommend:

- Reduce Base Funding for New Hours at New Brighton - \$50,000
- Close a Small Library - \$400,000
- Close Sundays at Maplewood & Shoreview - \$135,000

In addition to the cuts identified above, the Library would also need to identify an additional \$430,000 in reductions for the second year of the budget cycle:

- Close a Small Library - \$230,000
- Close Sundays at Roseville - \$125,000
- Reduce Base Funding for Substitute Staff - \$75,000

Ramsey County Library

If additional funding were available for the 2018-2019 budget cycle, Library staff recommended the following priorities for new programs or services:

- Increase the library materials budget - \$225,000
- Add Tuesdays at Mounds View - \$35,000
- Establish a Refurbishment Line Item - \$50,000

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Review the proposed budget priorities for 2018-2019, and authorize staff to continue with the budget preparation process based on the Library Board's approval.

Department Summary



BUDGET SUMMARY

LIBRARY

Title	2016 Budget	2017 Budget	2018 Requested	2019 Requested
Expenditure/Appropriation	10,667,022	11,616,800	11,861,641	12,031,994
Revenue/Estimated Revenue	979,401	981,652	909,152	909,152
Reductions Needed to Meet Levy Target	0	0	0	0
County Tax Levy	9,687,621	10,635,148	10,952,489	11,122,842
Levy Target			10,369,269	10,110,038
Reduction Needed to Meet Levy Target			583,220	1,012,804

Additional Reductions Needed from 2018 to 2019: 429,585

Levy Decrease Amount (265,879) (259,231)

EXPENDITURES SUMMARY

Title	2016 Budget	2017 Budget	2018 Requested	2019 Requested
Expenditures				
Personal Services	7,210,438	7,955,791	7,999,981	8,132,794
Other Services and Charges	2,488,243	2,623,009	2,770,660	2,783,200
Supplies	132,396	133,000	156,000	156,000
Operating Capital Outlay	835,944	905,000	935,000	960,000
Total Expenditure/Appropriation	10,667,022	11,616,800	11,861,641	12,031,994
Inc/(Dec) from Previous Year			244,841	170,354
% Inc/-Dec from Previous Year			2.1%	1.4%
Inc/(Dec) for 2 Years				415,194
% Inc/-Dec for 2 Years				3.6%

REVENUE SUMMARY

Title	2016 Budget	2017 Budget	2018 Requested	2019 Requested
Revenues				
Fines and Forfeitures	502,561	550,000	500,000	500,000
Intergovernmental Revenue	222,484	236,652	221,652	221,652
Revenue from Sales	71,835	73,000	72,500	72,500
Revenue from Use of Money/Property	112,271	122,000	115,000	115,000
Other Revenue	70,249	-	-	-
Total Revenue/Estimated Revenue	979,401	981,652	909,152	909,152
Inc/(Dec) from Previous Year			(72,500)	-
% Inc/-Dec from Previous Year			-7.4%	0.0%
Inc/(Dec) for 2 Years				(72,500)
% Inc/-Dec for 2 Years				-7.4%

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT
LINE ITEM DETAIL

ORG	ACCT	DESCRIPTION	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Approved	2018 Requested	2019 Requested
650101	411101	Salaries Permanent	5,169,240	5,207,910	5,917,135	5,828,931	5,926,563
650101	411103	Salaries Temporary	35,549	29,509	-	-	-
650101	411104	Salaries Overtime	2,692	199	-	-	-
650101	411111	Vacancy Factor	-	-	(34,065)	(33,566)	(34,128)
650101	411112	Deferred Compensation	12,241	12,518	14,700	14,760	16,200
650101	411201	PERA	382,527	382,850	445,153	437,170	444,492
650101	411202	FICA-OASDI	306,841	309,567	365,213	362,309	368,451
650101	411203	FICA-HI	72,108	72,399	85,413	84,734	86,170
650101	411301	Health & Welfare Insurance	869,289	904,549	946,742	961,774	977,883
650101	411302	Dental Insurance	34,000	-	(115,000)	-	-
650101	411303	Medicare B Coverage	1,678	1,462	3,000	1,500	1,500
650101	411306	Life Insurance	6,772	6,863	9,171	9,017	9,130
650101	411307	Long Term Disability	5,061	5,126	6,521	6,405	6,515
650101	411308	Unemployment Compensation	876	-	-	-	-
650101	411309	Health Care Savings Plan	15,320	16,123	15,951	34,180	32,371
650101	411310	Payroll Surcharge (OPEB Liability)	271,446	261,144	295,857	291,447	296,328
650101	411410	Cell Phone Allowance	-	220	-	1,320	1,320
TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES			7,185,641	7,210,438	7,955,791	7,999,981	8,132,794
650101	421106	Credit Card Fees	16,278	13,839	14,000	14,000	14,000
650101	421208	County Attorney Services	27,125	23,116	17,000	20,000	20,000
650101	421401	Data Processing Serv-Other	70,743	72,018	75,000	55,000	55,000
650101	421402	Data Processing Serv-Mtce	218,400	277,200	251,856	315,900	328,440
650101	421522	Other Professional Services	5,173	37,580	-	-	-
650101	421525	Recruitment Service	1,186	829	1,500	1,000	1,000
650101	421602	Advertising and Promotion	3,277	5,054	3,500	3,500	3,500
650101	421603	Printing & Stationery	23,686	18,931	20,000	20,000	20,000
650101	421701	Postage	17,693	10,404	15,000	12,000	12,000
650101	421706	Telephone-Long Distance Charges	266	460	250	500	500
650101	421707	Telephone-Local Service	64,317	78,585	60,000	95,000	95,000
650101	421709	Cable Television Services	1,816	947	1,800	1,000	1,000
650101	421710	Telephone-Cellular Service	978	1,105	1,200	1,200	1,200
650101	421801	Workers Compensation	4,951	13,220	13,220	13,220	13,220
650101	422402	Buildings & Office Space	1,194,996	1,304,505	1,485,344	1,499,962	1,499,962
650101	422502	Equipment & Machinery Rental	8,342	9,842	10,000	10,000	10,000
650101	422601	Equipment & Machinery Repairs	5,166	4,018	9,798	10,000	10,000
650101	422602	DP Equipment Maintenance	78,256	81,003	110,440	110,000	110,000
650101	422805	Software Maintenance	116,742	127,906	125,000	175,000	175,000
650101	423111	Employee Development	731	905	-	-	-
650101	424108	Tort Liability-Self Insurance	12,890	13,535	13,535	14,212	14,212
650101	424201	Property Tax	-	-	8,000	8,000	8,000
650101	424302	Membership & Dues	2,425	2,060	2,500	2,000	2,000
650101	424303	Conference & Seminar Expense	21,984	26,015	10,000	10,000	10,000
650101	424305	Volunteer/Comm Meeting Expense	1,011	1,181	1,000	1,000	1,000
650101	424307	Co Meeting/Acknowledgement Exp	474	592	500	500	500
650101	424309	Other Educational Expenses	3,576	361	4,000	4,000	4,000
650101	424501	Mileage/Parking	12,952	9,823	10,000	10,000	10,000
650101	424506	Freight & Express Charge	593	330	600	600	600
650101	424507	Messenger Service	620	955	650	1,250	1,250

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

LINE ITEM DETAIL

ORG	ACCT	DESCRIPTION	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Approved	2018 Requested	2019 Requested
650101	424508	Armored Car Service	5,733	7,283	5,200	10,000	10,000
650101	424601	Other Services	329	290	300	-	-
650101	424605	Interest	45	-	-	-	-
650101	424606	Administrative Overhead	269,611	340,954	348,816	348,816	348,816
650101	424608	Per Diem Fees	3,100	3,400	3,000	3,000	3,000
TOTAL OTHER SERVICES & CHARGES			2,195,463	2,488,243	2,623,009	2,770,660	2,783,200
650101	431101	Office Supplies	15,144	13,782	10,000	10,000	10,000
650101	431102	Computer Operating Supplies	57,881	56,781	50,000	55,000	55,000
650101	431103	Program Supplies	1,574	1,440	2,000	1,500	1,500
650101	431108	Duplicating Supplies	12,140	11,257	10,000	10,000	10,000
650101	431111	Signs & Supplies	1,709	440	2,000	2,000	2,000
650101	431120	Library Circulation Supplies	59,698	47,050	55,000	75,000	75,000
650101	432103	Miscellaneous Supplies	2,633	1,647	4,000	2,500	2,500
TOTAL SUPPLIES			150,779	132,396	133,000	156,000	156,000
650101	441201	Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
650101	441211	Data Processing Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
650101	443101	Equipment Costs-Current Expense	13,516	7,681	5,000	10,000	10,000
650101	443102	PC Software Costs-Current Exp	34,100	91	-	-	-
650101	443103	Data Processing Equipment - Current Exp	4,376	16,250	50,000	50,000	50,000
650101	443301	Building Improvements - Current	-	369	-	-	-
650101	443401	Library Books	885,882	811,552	850,000	875,000	900,000
TOTAL OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY			937,874	835,944	905,000	935,000	960,000
TOTAL LIBRARY EXPENSES			10,469,757	10,667,022	11,616,800	11,861,641	12,031,994

REVENUE SUMMARY

Fines and Forfeitures							
650101	313102	Library Fines	537,163	502,561	550,000	500,000	500,000
			537,163	502,561	550,000	500,000	500,000
Intergovernmental Revenue							
650101	314107	MELSA	211,163	200,832	215,000	200,000	200,000
21652	314614	PERA Rate Increase Aid	21,652	21,652	21,652	21,652	21,652
			232,815	222,484	236,652	221,652	221,652
Revenue From Sales							
650101	317309	Sale of Surplus Property	-	10	-	-	-
650101	317314	Duplicating Copies	69,069	70,215	70,000	70,000	70,000
650101	317401	Miscellaneous Sales	1,113	1,610	3,000	2,500	2,500
			70,181	71,835	73,000	72,500	72,500
Use of Money and Property							
650101	318102	Interest on Investments	2,182	9,485	2,000	10,000	10,000
650101	318201	Buildings & Structures	97,640	102,786	120,000	105,000	105,000
			99,822	112,271	122,000	115,000	115,000

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

LINE ITEM DETAIL

			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
ORG	ACCT	DESCRIPTION	Actual	Actual	Approved	Requested	Requested
Other Revenues							
650101	319101	Comp for Loss of Co Prop	10	155	-	-	-
650101	319102	Recovery-Prior Years'	4,666	13,999	-	-	-
650101	319103	Recovery-Current Years'	89,429	56,095	-	-	-
650101	319104	Jury Service-County Employees	40	-	-	-	-
			94,146	70,249	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE			1,034,127	979,401	981,652	909,152	909,152

Ramsey County Library

Request for Library Board Action

<u>Meeting Date</u> March 15, 2017	<u>Action Requested</u> Information & Discussion	<u>Presented By</u> Bill Michel, Library Project Manager
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SUBJECT:

Shoreview Project Update

BACKGROUND:

The Library and Property Management are working to complete the many items left unfinished at opening. The artwork for the Teen Wall has been installed. The literacy interactives donated by the Rotary Club of Arden Hills/Shoreview have arrived and been installed in the Children's area. The first piece of art purchased with capital campaign funds has been installed in the lobby area. The art film has been installed in the Administrative Offices and will soon be installed in the Book Club Room and the Conference Room windows. The quartz tops on the public service desks have arrived and been installed. Adolfson and Peterson is slowly working through the various punch list issues identified by the Library and HGA.

Property Management is working to close out the project in the near future. This would allow A&P to release leftover contingency funds back to the County to allow the Library to purchase additional furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E) items.

The Library is working to close out the State Library Construction Grant, which will allow the State to release the \$806,500 grant funds to the County. The grant allowed the Library to acquire an AMH and other technology, to purchase the DIRT system for the Administrative offices, and to augment the FF&E budget.

As a part of the design process, the project participated in Xcel Energy's Energy Design Assistance Program. The recommendations from that program added \$297,000 to the cost of the project, but they will allow the Library to achieve the goals of MnB3. Xcel issued a rebate check for \$57,727 as a partial offset to those added costs. That money will be added to the Project balances, which will go into the Library's Facilities Fund for future capital projects.

For the first full month of operation, the Library achieved a 10% increase in circulation over the same month last year.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

For information and discussion.

Request for Library Board Action

Branch Library Report

North St. Paul



March 15, 2017

Report to the Library Board

TRENDS IN THE SERVICE AREA

- Population in North St. Paul has remained somewhat static over the past year. July 2016 reports the population at 12,039. Predictors indicate a flat increase in population over the next few years (increase of 1.1% from 2015-2020).
- Demographics indicate a predominately white (80%) population with approximately 25% under the age of 18.
- The population is relatively stable with most homeowners staying in their residences (83%) within the last five years. About 2/3 of the population in North St. Paul own their residence. The remainder live in rental housing, Section 8 housing or senior housing.
- The medium household income remains firmly planted in the lower middle-class bracket, averaging at \$52K per annum in the last five years.
- Despite the fact that the census indicates the overall population in North St. Paul is ~80% white, the ISD622 demographics indicate that the student population is only 52% white suggesting that perhaps Maplewood and Oakdale are contributing to the more diverse student population. 51% of the ISD622 student body receive free/reduced lunch services. More than 50 non-English languages are spoken in the households of ISD622 students.
- A new charter elementary school opened in September 2016. This school (named North Metro Flex Academy: <http://northmetroflex.com>) is designed to provide flexible and blending learning experiences for K-4 students. The school is located across from City Hall on Margaret Street in downtown North St. Paul. Initial observances have indicated that the student body is predominately children of color and/or recent immigrants.

LIBRARY ISSUES AND SERVICE TRENDS

- North St. Paul continues to offer laptops as an option for patrons requiring Internet access. Wireless use has slightly increased over the last year indicating that more patrons are entering the building with a device of their own.
- Circulation staff hours have adjusted with the hire of a new staff member. Some hours were shifted to other branches in the system as it was deemed unnecessary to keep North St. Paul at the hourly rate it had previously held (due to circulation and foot traffic).
- Manager Monica Stratton filled in as the Branch Manager of Maplewood from November through January allowing Bill Michel to focus his energy on the new Shoreview building. In her absence, substitute librarians Jenny Jackson and Kay Jacobson served as librarian.
- Allowing more access to gaming in the teen room when available has resulted in a significant increase in use of the Xbox. Librarian Charles Mosner has been tracking these stats and has seen an increase of over 50% in gaming at North St. Paul.
- A meeting with the City of North St. Paul has resulted in what we hope are answers to ongoing cleaning issues at the library. Scott Duddeck of the city was made aware of the lack of cleaning at the library and will take steps to provide us with city cleaners rather than relying on the hockey school to clean the building. This continues to be a work in progress.
- The Kokoro Volleyball Club uses the gym in the building on weekends and most evenings. To that end, they have renovated the space and turned it into a volleyball court specific space. Tournaments on the weekends as well as regular practices in the evenings have resulted in a busy atmosphere in the building, sometimes creating parking issues in our lot.
- North St. Paul has started a working relationship with the new charter school (see above). To that end, the school visits the library classroom-by-classroom on a weekly basis. Since the school has no library of their own, this is a mutually beneficial relationship. We are able to provide students with reading materials and they use our collection. Librarian Monica Stratton facilitated this relationship and hopes to continue it in the next school year.

LIBRARY SERVICES AND EVENTS

Number of weekly storytimes, book clubs or other on-going programs

- One weekly family storytime

- One monthly adult book club

- Weekly teen gaming (Tues/Thurs evenings, Sat all day)

What is special and important about the library

- Personal connection with patrons

- Small, cozy feel which patrons appreciate – especially patrons with intellectual disabilities or those coming from group homes in the area

- Providing the new charter school in the area with a library they can call their own

- Non-requestable collection allows patrons access to bestsellers the day they are released

- Convenience to low income housing and downtown North St. Paul

Collection Highlights

- Non-requestable collection

- Expanded teen collection

- Popular magazines with current issue available for checkout

- Piloting “New York Times Bestsellers” display

- Growing children’s collection

Work Plan Project(s)

- None, currently

Key Partnerships

- Independent School District 622

- St. Peter’s Catholic School

- St. Mark’s Preschool

- North Metro Flex Academy

- Bauer-Emerson Academy (share building)

- Kokoro Volleyball Club (share building)

- City of North St. Paul

- University of MN Child Development Center (children’s outreach)

- Battle Creek Head Start

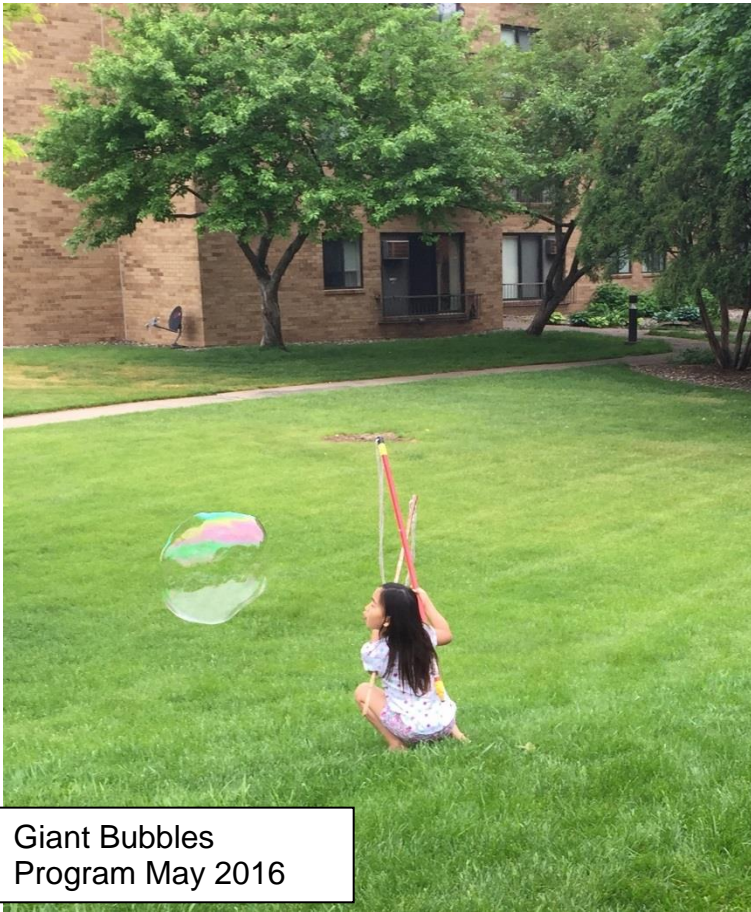
RCL - NORTH ST. PAUL AT A GLANCE

YEAR BUILT	2005
SQUARE FEET	2,600
DAYS OPEN	Mon, Wed, Sat : 10am-5pm Tue, Thur : 1pm-8pm Fri, Sun : closed
HOURS/WEEK	35

NUMBER OF PUBLIC COMPUTERS	14 desktop 3 laptop
COLLECTION SIZE	19,481

STAFF FTE	2.5
TOTAL STAFF	5
VOLUNTEER HOURS	2 per week

	2013	2014	2015	2016
TOTAL CIRCULATION	148,216	136,077	123,346	114,144
CHILDREN'S CIRCULATION (TOTAL # AND % OF TOTAL CIRC)	50,654 34%	48,313 36%	43,263 35%	39,504 35%
REFERENCE	10,062	12,324	14,014	17,459
COMPUTER HOURS USED	12,949	7,763	6,618	6,755
WIRELESS USERS	10,732	16,602	2,941	3,802
ANNUAL VISITS	59,428	57,040	49,112	38,944
CHILDREN'S PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	4,207	3,300	3,992	5,699
ADULT PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	139	46	83	179



Giant Bubbles
Program May 2016



NSP Fire Dept. at
Storytime October 2016



Monarchs enclosed
Summer 2016

Media Happenings

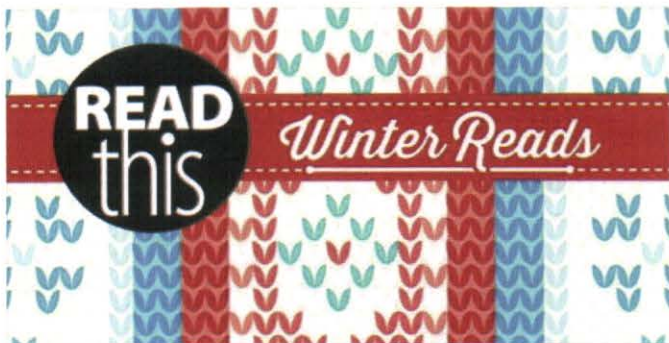
February - March

Facebook Highlights

Ramsey County Library shared Saint Paul Public Library's event

Published by Pa Na Lor (?) January 17 at 9:22am

Join Saint Paul Public Library and Ramsey County Library for a #WinterReadsTwinCities Facebook event, Wed. Jan. 25!



JAN 25 Winter ReadsTwin Cities
Wed 6 PM
74 people interested · 36 people going

★ Interested

Craig Mullenbach Gallery 96
January 23 at 2:26pm

Preview our our latest show. Open to the public at the new Ramsey County Library in Shoreview Saturday January 28 10am-5pm. Stop by and check out the great new library and visit our new gallery wall. We raised funds for the hanging system last summer with a couple Raku pottery firings.



👍👍 4

2 Comments

Like Share

David Holm Great hanging job, folks!
Like 1 January 23 at 2:29pm

Janine Olmscheid Looks great! Looking forward to the opening on Saturday.
Like 1 January 23 at 2:32pm

★ Review

Rao Konidena reviewed Ramsey County Library — 1 star
January 15

I picked up "The Senator Next Door" Amy Klobuchar memoir yesterday. I wanted to complement you on thought ful books and genres available right there when we walk in. Please keep up the good work!

Check-in

Kristian Marie Eustice at Ramsey County Library
January 21 at 2:20pm · Roseville

Ruby and Maggie received their first library cards today! 🎉



Ramsey County Library: Amanda Thompson and 18 others

2 Comments

Like Comment Share

Leah Faulkner My favorite books to read in elementary were This Island Isn't Big Enough for the Four of Us, and The Secret Garden. I was overjoyed to be in the library when I was a kid! I'm so happy you took them to get their cards 🎉
Like Reply 2 January 21 at 2:59pm

Anna Marie Moncrief Congratulations girls, hopefully you find some amazing adventures through reading.
Like Reply 1 January 21 at 4:43pm

Mention

CTV North Suburbs with Duchess Harris at Ramsey County Library-Roseville Br
January 20 at 1:41pm · Saint Paul

✓ Liked as Your Page

Our crew was at the Ramsey County Library in Roseville last night to cover a presentation by Duchess Harris about the black women mathematicians of NASA, who helped America win World War II and conquer space - the real story behind the hit movie "Hidden Figures." We're putting the finishing touches on the program - watch for it on CTV channels!



Ramsey County Library: Karin Schmitt, Kathy Waterman and 6 others

1 Share

Like Comment Share



Ramsey County Library

Published by Pa Na Lor (?) · January 20 at 8:30am ·

Meet Carol Jackson, Library Manager at Shoreview

Who I am:

Organized, well-read, curious & bespectacled.

My childhood library:

Was the Ramsey County Library in North St. Paul! I grew up in Maplewood and used to ride my bike there.

I am currently reading:

"Spoiled Brats" by Simon Rich. This collection of hilarious short stories starts with the line: "They buried my wife in a shoebox in Central Park." (Spoiler: The story is told by a hamster in a third grade classroom.)



John Hakes, Carly McEathron and 39 others

2 Comments

Like Comment Share

Top Comments



Write a comment.



Katy Heskett Gibbs I was happy to see the bike racks set up at the new Shoreview library. I have good memories of riding to my library as a child Linden Hills library in Minneapolis.

Unlike Reply Message 2 · January 20 at 6:10pm



Bonnie Bassett One of my favorite librarians!

Unlike Reply Message 1 · January 20 at 5:47pm



Ramsey County Library

Published by Pa Na Lor (?) · January 23 at 9:46am ·

Minneapolis author Kelly Barnhill wins Newbery Award - children's literature's highest honor



Minneapolis author Kelly Barnhill wins Newbery Award

Minneapolis writer Kelly Barnhill has won the Newbery Award, children's literature's highest honor, for her young adult novel, "The Girl Who Drank the Moon," published by Algonquin Books.

STARTRIBUNE.COM

4,417 people reached

Boost Post

John Hakes and 76 others

14 Shares



Ramsey County Library

Published by Pa Na Lor (?) · January 24 at 1:45pm ·

On Saturday, January 21, more than 300 kindergartners got their first library card and met author/illustrator Grace Lin.

Pictures: [https://www.facebook.com/28875278485/photos/...](https://www.facebook.com/28875278485/photos/)



Kindergarten Library Card Party Recap

00:58


1,933 people reached

Boost Post

Anna Zbacnik and 41 others

Ramsey County Library
Published by Pa Na Lor [?] January 25 at 1:13pm

Library staff briefly hit the pause button as we prepare for Shoreview's grand opening this Saturday. #MannequinChallenge #RCLShoreview



Ramsey County Library Mannequin Challenge
02:21

2,335 people reached

Boost Post

46 2 Comments 2 Shares

Like Comment Share Top Comments

Write a comment

Karen O'Brien Beautiful library and terrific video, but some of those camera angles made me a little queasy! Can't wait to have SV really open for business!
Unlike Reply Message 1 January 25 at 6:31pm

Sally Peters Can't wait to see it!
Unlike Reply Message 1 January 25 at 2:17pm

Ramsey County Library
Published by Pa Na Lor [?] January 28 at 11:38am

3D Printing demo happening in the teen area. #RCLShoreview



3D Printing demo happening in the teen area. #RCLShoreview
01:02

2,110 people reached

Boost Post

30 1 Comment 2 Shares

Like Comment Share Top Comments

Write a comment

Diane Close Will this printer be available to adults too?
Like Reply Message January 29 at 7:19am

Ramsey County Library Yes, it will.
Like Reply 2 Commented on by Kristi Bassett Saksvig [?] January 29 at 7:26am

John Hakes
January 27 at 9:40pm OS X

Stop out at the grand opening of Ramsey County's new regional library in Shoreview Saturday morning (tomorrow). Ribbon-cutting ceremony happens at 10:00 a.m. followed by walk throughs, events and exhibits throughout the day until 5 p.m. Hope to see you there!... See More




8 1 Comment

Like Comment Share

Jacci Stahl Krebsbach I'll be there!!!
Like Reply January 27 at 9:47pm

Ramsey County Library
Published by Kristi Bassett Saksvig [?] January 28 at 10:16am

Residents fill the new Shoreview library meeting room and spill into the entryway to hear from local dignitaries. #RCLShoreview



1,593 people reached

Boost Post

42 1 Comment

Like Comment Share Top Comments

Write a comment

John Hakes We missed you, Susan Nemitz! Your not being there was the biggest disappointment in an otherwise spectacular day at the new RCL-Shoreview branch!
Unlike Reply Message 2 January 28 at 7:22pm Edited

Mention

Adolfson & Peterson Construction
January 30 at 12:46pm

Like as Your Page

Lot's of excitement and anticipation at the #ribboncutting to experience the features and #technology of the new Ramsey County Library, Shoreview Library. #Libraries #Booklovers

Jill Vosberg **Ramsey County Library**
January 28 at 11:14am

Our kiddos were so excited to be some of the first to explore the new library this morning!! #raisingreaders

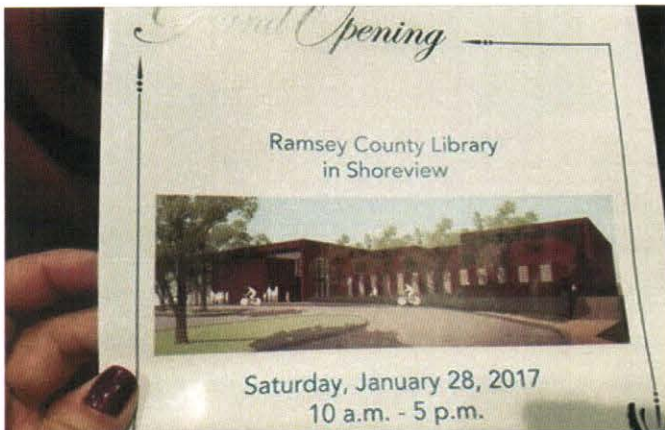


Ramsey County Library

Vadnais Heights Economic Development Corporation added 4 new photos
January 28 at 11:54am

Like Page

Great morning at the Grand Opening of the new Shoreview Library! Fun events planned all day. Lots of thanks to go around--big kudos to Ramsey County and City of Shoreview and many more! This is a regional library that serves surrounding communities including the City of Vadnais Heights.



Mention

Alisha Selfert was live
January 28 at 1:25pm

Mounds View High school orchestra did an amazing rendition of Yesterday Ramsey County Library in Shoreview

Mention

John Hakes
January 28 at 5:58pm

Mounds View High School Orchestral Ensemble at Ramsey County Library-Shoreview:

It's difficult to discern from this clip, but in addition to the many fine physical features & logical layout of Ramsey County's new regional library, the facility's most comfortable quality may just be its acoustics. While this Lucas Shogren-led group of musicians treated guests in the adult section by the fireplace, other patrons conversed easily 50-75 ft. away.

The ability to keep sound localized and not ricocheting everywhere is due to the installation of a sound masking system, and was deemed wise because of the library's proximity to a major road and it's single floor configuration.

Visit the new library soon & 'listen around' for yourself!



Ramsey County Library, Caitlin Carroll, John Hakes and 14 others

2 Comments 329 Views

Like Comment Share

Stefanie Straka Lacey loved being able to conduct the orchestra. What a neat idea for the kids!



Unlike Reply 2 January 28 at 9:07pm

John Hakes Thank you for sharing!

Like Reply January 28 at 9:10pm

Write a reply

Lisa Wedell Ueki I hope the Shoreview Northern Lights Variety Band will utilize that space for some of its smaller performance groups.

Like Reply 1 January 28 at 10:03pm

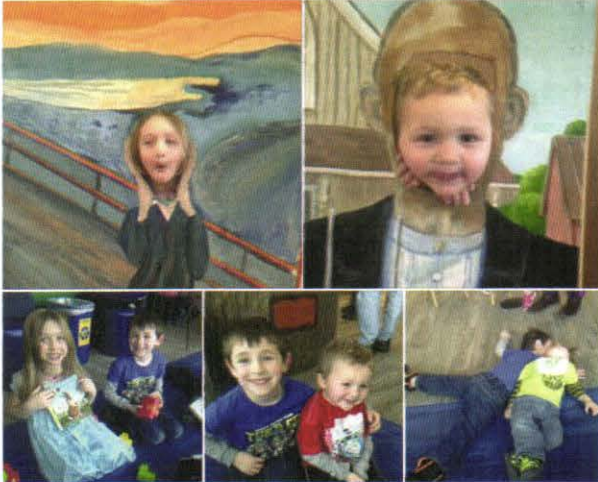
Lisa Wedell Ueki John, I was very pleased with the acoustics in the new library. A definite improvement over the Roseville library.

Like Reply 1 January 28 at 11:23pm

Write a reply

Jenny Schaefer added 5 new photos — with Stephanie Bronk Gavin
January 28 at 12:50pm

Shoreview library grand opening! These kids love books ❤️📖
#RCLShoreview



20

2 Comments

Like Comment Share

Joel Charles Wenthrop Jenny! You and Ryan have such cute kids!
Like Reply January 28 at 1:00pm

Cherie Schmit They look like they're having SO much fun!!!
Like Reply January 28 at 2:01pm

Elizabeth Beth Jensen added 6 new photos
January 28 at 6:56pm

The new Shoreview Library opening and photo scavenger hunt! Tons of fun for all and a beautiful facility. Lots of great work done by the staff (Angie Miller) and we are excited to come back! #RCLShoreview



22

3 Comments

Like Comment Share

Amy Bell We went after swimming lessons - so happy for all of the exceptional public libraries we have in Ramsey County. And, yes, well done, Angie Miller!
Like Reply 2 January 28 at 7:05pm

Elizabeth Beth Jensen And it was great running into Anna Smith, Joyce Jacobson, and a friend from high school!
Like Reply 2 January 28 at 7:07pm

Angie Miller Thank you for coming and being a part of the fun!
Like Reply January 28 at 9:25pm

Mention

Egan Company
January 30 at 11:56am

Like as Your Page

Interactive displays, 3D printers, and advanced technology is available at the newly constructed 38,000 square foot Shoreview Library from Ramsey County Library - now open to the public! #RCLShoreview
Egan's InterClad team installed 5,300 square feet of curtainwall and 300 square feet of aluminum panels on the exterior of the building. Interior glass, sliding glass doors, mirrors, and one all-glass interior wall add to the overall modern feel of the Library.



LENDING TO A NEW LIBRARY EXPERIENCE - Egan Company

The Ramsey County Library system just opened its newest renovated branch in Shoreview, Minn. This new 38,000-square-foot building increases space from the previous location by 10,000 square feet, and gives library-goers a new experience with interactive displays, 3D printers, and additional computer...

EGANCO.COM

Ramsey County Library, Linda Hendricks, Tim Woolworth and 5 others

1 Comment 1 Share

Like Comment Share

Top Comments

Write a comment

CES Imaging Awesome job! Looks fantastic!
Like Reply 1 January 30 at 12:35pm



Ramsey County Library added 39 new photos to the album
Grand Opening at the library in Shoreview — with John Hakes and 6 others

Published by Pa Na Lor [?] January 31 at 2:50pm



1,480 people reached

Boost Post

Shelly Myrland, Carol Brash and 28 others

2 Comments 3 Shares

Like Comment Share

Top Comments

Write a comment

John Hakes The number of different elements 'effortlessly incorporated' into this library is truly amazing. This, combined with a high comfort quotient created by the control of natural light, sound & temperature, should make it a wonderful destination for many years to come. Thank you, officials & staff at Ramsey County, Minnesota and Ramsey County Library!!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 1 at 12:03pm Edited

Kim Sundet Vanderwall What an awesome day! I love how the library immediately filled up with people using all the new features!
Unlike Reply Message 2 January 31 at 3:22pm

Mention

John Hakes updated his cover photo
January 31 at 11:04am

Ramsey County Commissioners, Ramsey County Library Board Trustees & the Friends of the Ramsey County Libraries Director assemble for the ribbon-cutting at the new regional Ramsey County Library in Shoreview



Ramsey County Library, John Hakes, Jo Falgren and 25 others

2 Comments

Like Comment Share

Mary Galvin Excellent! Way to go, Craig Klausling!
Unlike Reply 2 January 31 at 11:32am

John MacHalec SV library is such a frequent stop for me that I passed through today just to see the new space and it's marvelous. My favorite librarian Karen just started giving me a tour when I saw her. Great rooms for privacy, wonderful light with all those windows... See More
Unlike Reply 5 January 31 at 7:40pm

Blake Huffman Thanks for the great review!
Like Reply 1 January 31 at 7:41pm

John Hakes John: So you are aware on the Binge Box movies, the check out period is 3 weeks for a box, and there's no penalty should you only make it through 3 of the 5 movies-I 😊 Thanks for stopping-- hope it becomes a 'go-to' place for getting things done.
Like Reply January 31 at 11:09pm

John MacHalec Ok then... it's a 3-week zombie binge box for my middle schooler. The huge windows and natural light are still my favorite element. Good invention: UV shielded glass.
Like Reply February 1 at 7:45am

John Hakes John MacHalec: Besides the natural light management system you cite, the library's comfort quotient is also high due to climate controlled vents in the floor and a sound masking system that localizes sound so patrons and staff can focus on conversation... See More
Like Reply February 1 at 8:33am - Edited



Sherri Beth-LaBarre Varsho ▶ Ramsey County Library

February 1 at 2:38pm

Does the library have an outside drop area? I didn't see one. Every library should have a drive up space.

Also, parking spaces are smaller than usual, first time there, someone door opened into my van...(yes I was parked correctly)

My 4 and 2 year old were not impressed. I wish some of the features of the Roseville library, for kids, would have been incorporated. I agree for adults it is a wonderful, architectural space. Maybe we missed something when we were there.

-- feeling a bit disappointed....

1 Comment

Like Comment Share

Chronological



Ramsey County Library Sherri, Thank you for your feedback. The new Shoreview library does have a drive up materials return. It is on the north side of the building.

Like Reply Commented on by Kristi Bassett Saksvig [?] February 1 at 2:47pm

Sherri Beth-LaBarre Varsho Thanks for clarifying.
Like Reply February 1 at 7:14pm

Check-in



Ange Prokop checked in to Ramsey County Library
March 3 at 1:36pm Roseville MN

First lunch at The Original Malt Shop, now library. Abby's spring break has officially started

Love Comment Share

Ramsey County Library, Shelly Burnos, Sean Fischer and 13 others



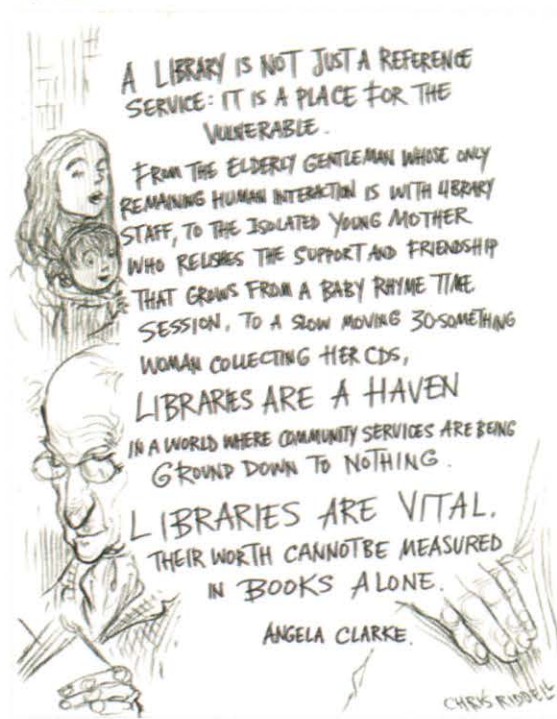
Erick Ostrom Where did she go? Cancun would be awesome
Like Reply March 3 at 2:05pm



Ramsey County Library shared Chris Riddell's photo

Published by Pa Na Lor [?] February 13 at 10:15am

"A library is not just a reference service: it is a place for the vulnerable." - Angela Clarke



105

Top Comments



Write a comment



Carolyn Kostelnik The library was the first place I was allowed to go without an adult. I would ride my bike nearly 2.5 miles with my friend and dream about reading every book on the shelves. It is still one of my favorite places.

Unlike Reply Message 3 February 13 at 10:30am



John Hakes How sweet/meaningful would it be for library staff, board, patrons to each take a crack at capturing the significance of libraries/books etc. in their lives to be prominently featured on a board or screen some place in ... the new Shoreview Library, for instance?

Unlike Reply Message 1 February 13 at 3:57pm Edited



Patricia Elliott Support your local library. They are vital to a healthy community

Unlike Reply Message 2 February 13 at 1:20pm



Angela Mattson I love my library and so thankful that we have this valuable resource!

Unlike Reply Message 1 February 14 at 8:23pm

Mention



Northeast Journal

February 28 at 5:25pm

✓ Liked as Your Page

Today's the last day of the month, but thanks to the beauty of the internet you can watch the February edition of Northeast Journal for as long as you'd like! Some good stuff in this episode including a preview of the The Autism Society of Minnesota's Steps of Hope Walk, the Fix It Clinic at the Ramsey County Library, and a look at the new Punch Neapolitan Pizza in Vadnais Heights!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTSaQ82sUA4>



Northeast Journal-February 2017

YOUTUBE.COM

Ramsey County Library: The Autism Society of Minnesota and Eric Stevens

1 Share

Like Comment Share

Check-in

Emily Flesner at Ramsey County Library
February 15 at 3:01pm Instagram

What I do at the library it was one peg short!

#momlife #sofun #hedidntheip #litedrite #funtimes #happyhumpday #iwantone



Ramsey County Library, Michelle Jensen Kempel, Kirby Ehrenreich and 9 others · 2 Comments

Like Comment Share

Caitlin Keese Awesome! I played with the blocks at wishing tree yesterday and thought of you!
Like Reply 1 February 15 at 3:24pm

Emily Flesner Lol, he entertained himself, and I just went as fast as I could putting them in lol
Like Reply 1 February 15 at 3:25pm

Write a reply

Jamie Hering 2 pegs?

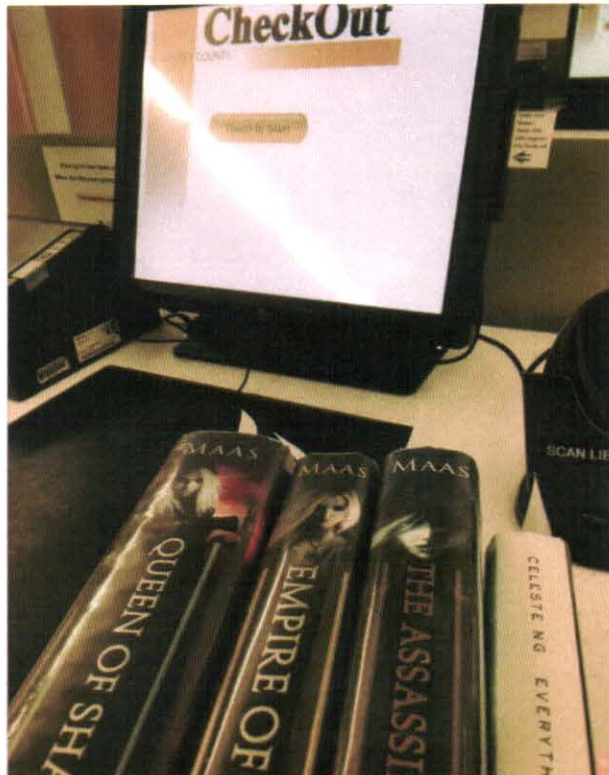
Like Reply February 15 at 5:05pm

Emily Flesner Colbin must have pulled it out, little stinker...it was like a race lol
Like Reply February 15 at 5:46pm

Check-in

Jana Mae Floyd at Ramsey County Library
February 15 at 4:55pm Roseville, MN

The moment I have been waiting all day for....



Like Comment Share

Donita Toavs, Karen Hill and 13 others

Ramsey County Library

Published by Pa Na Lor (7) February 7 at 10:00am

Meet Paige Fuller, Teen Services Librarian at Shoreview

Who I am:

Laidback, genuine and enthusiastic.

Most important lesson I've learned:

It's okay to try things even if you fail. It's how you learn who you are and what you are doing.

I am currently reading:

"How to Survive the Robot Uprising" by Daniel H. Wilson



1,232 people reached

Boost Post

Mary Resemius, Jason Lyons and 25 others

1 Share

Ramsey County Library

Published by Pa Na Lor (7) March 7 at 11:09am

Ramsey County Library welcomes people of all races, ethnicities, faiths, ages, genders, citizenship status, sexual orientations, abilities and learning interests.

How can we do better?

Tell us: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AllAreWelcome>



All Are Welcome Here: A Ramsey County Library Survey

Web survey powered by SurveyMonkey.com. Create your own online survey now with SurveyMonkey's expert certified FREE templates.

[SURVEYMONKEY.COM](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AllAreWelcome)

2,060 people reached

Boost Post

Kari McKelget Maher, Amy Grengs and 58 others

2 Comments

Like Comment Share

Top Comments



Write a comment...



Lori Hughes Thanks for caring and for being interested in learning and improving.

Unlike Reply Message 1 March 7 at 5:39pm



Meijie Chen Goudy Thank you for always providing a wide selection of books

Unlike Reply Message 1 March 7 at 2:54pm



Ramsey County Library

Published by Pa Na Lor 191 February 24 at 2:08pm

Where was your childhood library located?

1,890 people reached

Boost Post

Mary Grace Shearon, Bonnie Bassett and 5 others · 55 Comments

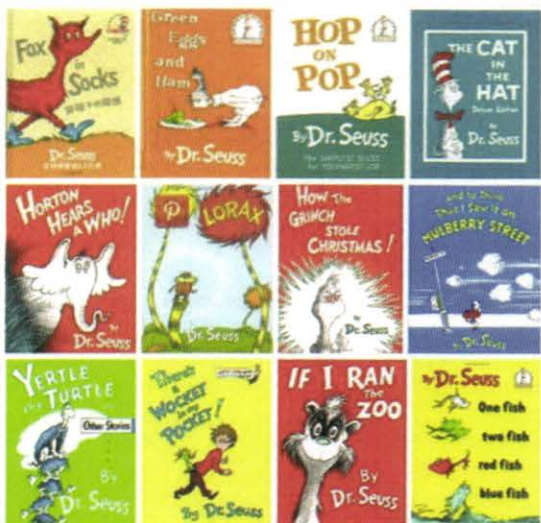
Like Comment Share Top Comments

Write a comment

- Jeanne Tanamachi** The Winona Public Library, where I spent many happy hours. Also our school library, where I found that sometimes the nuns had removed pages of books that contained a mention of kissing!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 25 at 11:31am
- Jeanette Kinney** Potvin North St Paul Library! It was in the building that was the old fire station. Then the "new" building was built on 7th avenue. Also, Maplewood library (the old one, over near John Glenn Jr High)
Unlike Reply Message 2 February 24 at 4:51pm
- Nancy Boykin** Arden Hills! I love the "new" New Brighton library, but I sure have a lot of fond memories of the little Arden Hills library too. 😊
Unlike Reply Message 2 February 24 at 3:08pm
- Carly McEathron** The tiny, old St Anthony library was close enough for me to ride my bike to, and it's where I have my fondest library memories. It was so tiny, taking up the space where the Wine and Canvas place is now.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 5:40pm
- Nancy Robbins** San Marino, CA, on Huntington Drive right next to the junior high (now renamed middle) school and my elementary school. Fond memories of going to the library as a kid!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 25 at 7:11am
- Kristie Strum** The Hayden Heights branch of the St. Paul Public Library. It was less than two blocks from my family's house, which meant I there a LOT.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 4:31pm
- Tamara Mans** Lindsey Air Station in Wiesbaden Germany. A makeshift library in an old barracks. Ugly, and strange, but it didn't matter because it had books and books and books.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 25 at 3:49pm
- Sally Peters** First one was in the Webster Elementary School, then the main library downtown Saint Paul Public Library and the Merriam Park branch at Marshall and Fairview Ave.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 2:12pm
- Katherine Campbell** Thul Burlington County Library in Westampton, NJ!
Unlike Reply Message 2 February 24 at 4:22pm · Edited
- Teri Sandahl** Mathews The little round one in Maplewood. And of course, the Bookmobile!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 25 at 6:40pm
- Kristen Klemann** Arlington Hills library! Such a beautiful Carnegie library building.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 4:09pm
- Katy Heskett** Gibbs Linden Hills (when I was little, I called it the fortress of knowledge)
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:51pm
- Tim Lewis** Me too! I grew up a few blocks from there.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 4:52pm
- Raymond Steinke II** Depended on the time of day, and day of the week. Our 'Library' was a Book-Mobile 😊
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 9:20pm
- Maggie Pew** Le Mars, IA public library on Central Av. A beautiful turn of the century building...
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 8:45pm
- Michelle Hueg** South Minneapolis - Homer Branch and the Bookmobile on 40th and Lyndale.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 8:33pm
- Elizabeth Dilworth** Lexington branch St Paul. And downtown St Paul when I could take the bus myself.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 7:50pm
- L.A. Williams** Hamline and B, two iterations of the building ago!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 8:09pm
- Jane Kennedy** The bookmobile at Margaret playground on St. Paul's East Side. Great memories!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 8:21pm
- Dawn Wiley** AH, had a fountain and marsh behind. Before that I had a Bookmobile visit just at the end of my driveway!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 25 at 8:29am
- Bill LaPlante** Rochester public library, 4 blocks from my grade school, 8 blocks from home and across the street from the Mayo clinic.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 6:48pm
- Jeni Harwell** Golden Valley, used to ride my bike and load up on books.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 5:29pm
- Kris Grangaard** Hennepin System - Crystal Library at 42nd and Douglas.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 10:31pm
- Howard Simms** The Snow Branch of the Dearborn, MI public library.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 25 at 7:04am
- Margaret Seibel** Within walking distance of my house.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 4:04pm

- Tim Pratt** My mom was a librarian in Marine on St Croix.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 2:49pm
- Carol Fuhrman** Rice St. in St Paul, MN
Unlike Reply Message 2 February 24 at 5:23pm
- Bill LaPlante** Rochester public library, 3 blocks from my grade scho
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 6:45pm
- Glynis Hinschberger** Bellevue Branch of the D.C. Public Library.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 25 at 7:46pm
- Andrew Moore** East Lake, Minneapolis.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 4:37pm
- Lynn Harty** Ketelsen Fargo, ND!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 4:58pm
- Mary Lisa Rayburn** Davenport Public Library
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 4:23pm
- Sara Scheerer** Cannon Falls Library
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 26 at 12:21am
- Jason Corey** Winona minnesota
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 4:31pm
- Ted Hovey** In the school.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 7:39pm
- Ted Hovey** Small town - 1940s.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 7:48pm
- Tosha Anderson** Belle PLaine, Minnesota
See Translation
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:16pm
- Charlene Ethen** North St Paul.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 8:51pm
- Alissa Koewler** New Market, MN! 😊
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 2:49pm
- Ann Wahlstrom** Laramie, Wyoming!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:14pm
- Kristen Sherman** Penn Lake Library in Bloomington 😊
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:05pm
- Jennifer Clawson** Burdick Lindstrom, MN!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:52pm
- Anita Alexander** downtown St. Paul
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 10:50pm
- Sheri Stewart** Roseville Ramsey County Library 💜
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 25 at 7:18pm
- Ellen Wolf** St Anthony Park Minnesota.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:07pm
- Margaret Dolbow** Bookmobile!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 8:49pm
- Kara Points** Swanson Eagan
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:35pm
- Christie Burke** Richland Park branch, Nashville. ❤️
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 2:20pm
- Shayla Rose** Shoreview!
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:10pm
- Julie Neville** By Lake Calhoun.....
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:30pm
- Gina Bryant** Somewhere near where the Green Bay Packers play.
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 2:23pm
- Carol Frey** Robbinsdale MN
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 4:49pm
- Kristi Bassett** Saksvig Marion Public Library
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 3:46pm
- Rao Konidena** Hyderabad, India
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 5:53pm
- Vickie Bartkus** Indiana
Unlike Reply Message 1 February 24 at 5:53pm
- Pamela Riley** sunray st paul
Like Reply Message March 4 at 6:32pm

What is your favorite Dr. Seuss book? #ReadAcrossAmerica



1,249 people reached

Boost Post

Mary Jackson, Kalena Doffing and 11 others · 11 Comments · Like · Comment · Share · Top Comments

Write a comment

Kristen Sherman That's a tough question to answer because there are so many good ones.
Unlike · Reply · Message · 2 · March 2 at 11:55am

Leah Sullivan Tie between The Lorax and Dr. Seuss ABC.
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 12:41pm

Angela Tenace All of them....
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 2:19pm

Susan Nemitz Green Eggs and Ham
Unlike · Reply · Message · 3 · March 2 at 4:31pm

Meg Lloyd Robertson Rumor has it that Tami Lee does the best reading of GEaH you will ever hear.
Unlike · Reply · Message · 4 · March 2 at 7:30pm

Bonnie Bassett Me too!
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 7:32pm

Write a reply

Kim Sundet Vanderwall Green Eggs and Ham!
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 1:24pm

Margaret Seibel Horton Hatches the Egg
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 2:14pm

Wendy Gardner Mine too! I meant what I said and I said what I meant. An elephant's faithful one hundred percent.
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · March 4 at 12:14pm

Write a reply

Marlene Moulton Janssen The Lorax
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 3:55pm

Trish Zepperi Vaillancourt Horton Hears a Who
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 1:34pm

Sally Peters Fox in Socks
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 12:37pm

Patti Naut Fox in Sox
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 11:59am

Melissa Wood Doumbia Definitely the most fun to read aloud!
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 12:06pm

Vickie Bartkus Yep, Fox in Sox. Read to the kids (at their request) it so often I have parts memorized
Unlike · Reply · Message · 3 · March 2 at 12:18pm

Write a reply

Maggie Pew Horton Hears a Who
Unlike · Reply · Message · 1 · March 2 at 1:05pm

Twitter Highlights

St. Paul City GOP @STPCityGOP Jan 13
MELSA's Transparent Language & Lynda.com Learning a Blessing to Many
gregcopeland911.wordpress.com/2017/01/13/mel... @rclreads @citygop



MELSA's Transparent Language & Lynda.com Learning a Blessing to Many
Sometimes you don't have to look very far outside of a school to learn new things. Not everything we adults have learned came from the inside of a classroom, so...
gregcopeland911.wordpress.com

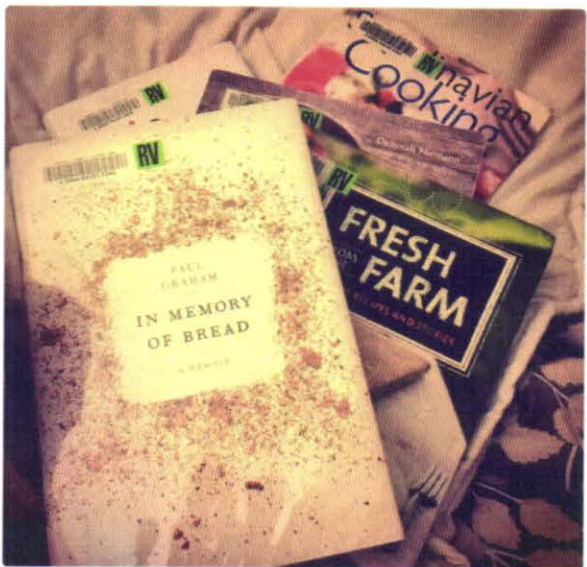
1

RamseyCounty @RamseyCounty Jan 14
The new @rclreads locations in Shoreview opens in two weeks! bit.ly/2jsZYQ5



1

studioloraine @studioloraine Jan 15
Library Sunday is my favorite. @rclreads



6

RamseyCounty @RamseyCounty Jan 17
@rclreads - Roseville speaker series on African-American experience w/
@Macalester Professor Duchess Harris begins Thursday.

Duchess Harris on African-American History

Thursdays, 7 p.m.
January 19, 26; February 2
RCL - Roseville

Co-sponsored by the Cohen Library Learning Institute of the University of Minnesota

RAMSEY COUNTY Library



2



LeAnn Suchy @lovelyleann Jan 17

I'm so excited! @Nnedi is coming to @rclreads Roseville library in February:
rclreads.org/sites/default/



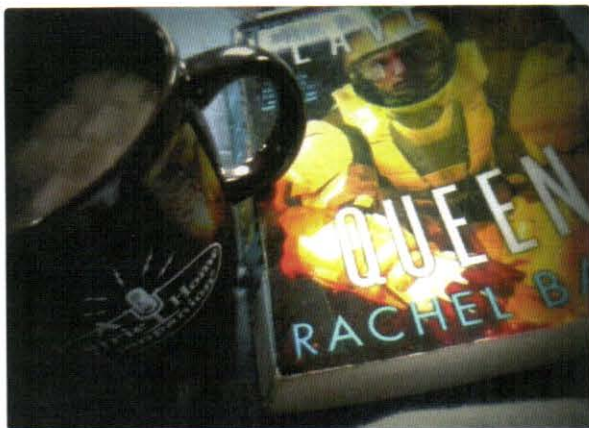
Rachel Aaron/Bach @Rachel_Aaron Jan 19

@texasmich28 @rclreads hooray! So glad you liked it & TY for reading! I have other books, too, if you need more 😊 rachelaaron.net/books.php



Mich C @texasmich28 Jan 18

#ireadthis Excellent and super entertaining! @rclreads @Rachel_Aaron
#winterreads



Marie Strawser @MarieStrawser Jan 21

Lots of parents and kids @rcireads Roseville watching kindergartens get library cards



Andre Chouravong @andrechouravong Jan 26

Orwell is popular! @rclreads



St Paul Area Chamber @SPACC Jan 19

Congratulations @rclreads @RamseyCounty and @cityofshoreview Great new library!



St. Paul City GOP @STPCityGOP Jan 24

@rclreads Grand Opening of the Shoreview Library this Saturday Jan 28th!
ramseycounty.us/content/grand-



Kate Norlander and 4 others follow

Irondale Eye @IrondaleEye Jan 25

@Team2052 at Shoreview Library Re-Opening Ceremonies!



Maureen L. Hartman [Emihartman](#) Jan 27

Congrats @rcIreads and @JillBoldenow



Roseville, MN @RosevilleMN Jan 27

Congratulations @rcireads

Phillip Pina [@PhilPina](#) Jan 27

New Shoreview library opens Saturday. Ramsey County Library branch cost \$15.8 million, latest in string of upgrades.



❤️ Anjali Arvikar 🎵 @LuckyRoxxy493 Jan 28

Enjoyed the new & improved 🤖 Shoreview Library! 📖 So excited to explore more later! 🥰 #avidreader 📱 #ICantWait 🥰 @rclreads 📖



cool hand luk 33c luk77 Jan 30

First day volunteering at the new #Shoreview library! 😊



MN History Day @MNHHistoryDay Jan 27

We have a #Hullabaloo tomorrow! 11:00am-3:00pm at **Roseville Public Library** - see you there! It's the second to last chance to get help!



Heather Worthington @worthington651 Jan 28
Wonderful turnout at opening of new Shoreview Library @RamseyCounty @rclreads @cityofshoreview Thank you!



5

Shan @nver_chic66 Jan 28
@RamseyCounty @cityofshoreview @rclreads ahhh 100 people standing in the door. Cut the ribbon already!

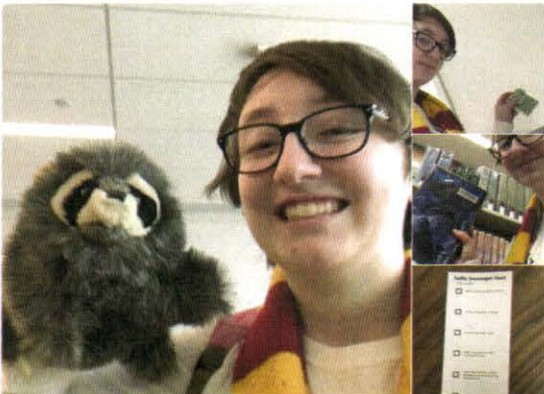
1

Heather Worthington @worthington651 Jan 28
Oaks removed during construction repurposed into tables and bench @rclreads new Shoreview Library @RamseyCounty



3

MG Shearon @mglampshade Jan 28
#RCLShoreview @rclreads @RamseyCounty



4

RamseyCounty @RamseyCounty Jan 28
Great Fix It Clinic at @rclreads - White Bear Lake wrapping up soon! Find upcoming dates at bit.ly/1WMNjE



2

Souleutions @Souleutions Jan 28
@rclreads, Hi! It's been awhile. Here's a better photo(s) of the #EyePlay and #ConferenceMeetingRoom. Just thought I'd share :)



1

Jenna Pomranig @sunnylibrary621 Jan 28
New library furniture, thanks to @rclreads and @mmunkvold!



3

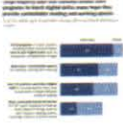
Jon Ruzek @JonHigherEd Jan 28
Public libraries are vital parts of our communities. Grand opening of new #RCLShoreview @cityofshoreview @rclreads



2

Lars Leafblad @larsleafblad · Jan 29
Grateful for @stpaullibrary @rclreads @thefriends @hclib @JHillCenter →

PewResearch Internet @pewinternet
Many Americans have high expectations for their local libraries services. pewrsr.ch/2c507uo



1 retweet 8 likes

Jeff Grann @jeffgrann · Jan 31
I love my @rclreads #NoMuslimBan



1 retweet 1 like

Mike Dolbow @mmdolbow · Jan 28
Enjoying reading by the "fire" at the new @rclreads Shoreview Library!

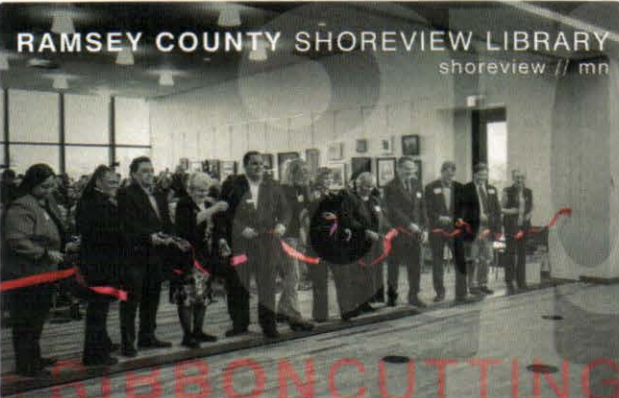


1 retweet 1 like

Joann Pittman @jkpittman · Feb 1
Loving the new @RCLReads library in Shoreview. It still has that "new library" smell!

1 retweet 2 likes

Adolfson & Peterson @AP_Construction · Jan 30
Lot's of excitement and anticipation at the #ribboncutting of the new @rclreads @cityofshoreview Library. #Libraries #Booklovers



2 retweets 8 likes

Club Book @ClubBookMN · Feb 1
Happy February! Hope to see you @rclreads Roseville on the 22nd for our ssn. kickoff w/ the one and only @Nnedi! clubbook.org

1 retweet 1 like

goodreads @goodreads · Feb 3
You made it to Friday! What book will you be reading this weekend?

552 retweets 67 replies 424 likes

Everything Emelia @em_everything · Following

@goodreads Rich and Pretty by @Rumaan from @rclreads

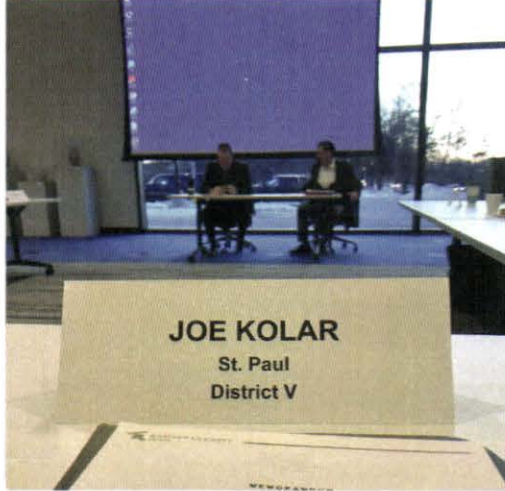
1 like

Joe Kolar @joekolar · Feb 2
Kicking off this Thursday with @RamseyCounty CIPAC meeting at the gorgeous new @rclreads in Shoreview.

Egan Company @EganCompany · Jan 30
Check out InterGlad's work at newly constructed @rclreads Shoreview Library now open to the public! #RCLShoreview bit.ly/2kvEKX



1 retweet 1 like



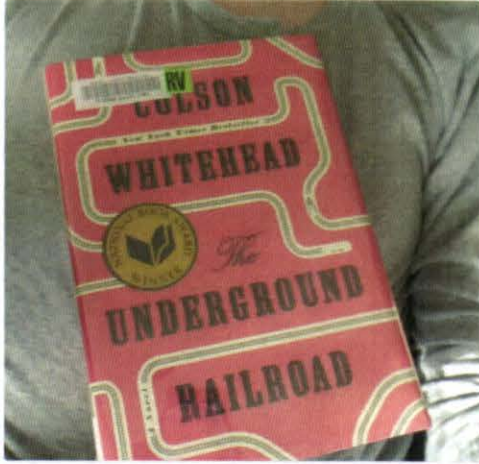
6 likes

Haldeman-Homme, Inc @HHITrends · Feb 3
We're proud to have provided the DIRT Modular Construction at this new Ramsey County Library in Shoreview, MN!



Adolfson & Peterson Construction Celebrates th...
Minneapolis, MN (PRWEB) February 03, 2017 Adolfson & Peterson Construction (AP) joined the community for a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new...
prweb.com

James @jordhamiet73 · Feb 5
@thethreadmpr it pays to wait(list)! Finally got my @colsonwhitehead from @rcireads! Won't finish during game 🙄 but will get started!



BookManiaLinda @LindaWonder · Feb 14
My list (bottom left) is up on the What Everyone is Reading board @rcireads! Entries from the Winter Jackets reading program.



Mayor Dan Roe @MayorDanRoe · Feb 15
Really enjoyed talking about reading & then reading a favorite childhood story to EDW kids at @rcireads in @RosevilleMN this evening



Roseville Schools

Richfield, MN @CityofRichfield · Feb 7
Post Office, coffee shop, recreation space...What would YOU like to see in the redevelopment of the Southdale Library? cityofrichfield.org/Home/Component...

Chris G-Unit @mrsgisier

Following

@CityofRichfield I like how the Roseville library has a Dunn Bros attached to it!

9:20 AM · 7 Feb 2017

RC Library Friends @RCLFriends

Following

Registration is now open for the April 1st Friends Gala in @RosevilleMN. Help us raise funds for @rcireads! Info at rclfriends.org /gala2017



RETWEETS 3

LIKES 3

11:29 AM · 7 Feb 2017

Mike Dolbow @mmdolbow · Feb 18
Second Saturday in a row that I've walked with my daughter to the new Shoreview @rcireads library. Achy feet, enriched minds.

Tracy Mumford @mumfordmumford · Feb 16
Eh, @hclib? @stpaullibrary? @rcireads?



The Thread @thethreadmpr
These librarians are giving personal book recommendations based on your tattoo: mprnews.org /story/2017/02/...

Roger D @rogerdel1 · Feb 21
@rcireads #QuitAddingToTheRaceWars

Roseville, MN @RosevilleMN · Feb 21
Looking forward to this great learning experience

RamseyCountyLibrary @rcireads
Join us to view and discuss this provocative film series questioning the idea of race as biology. Details: host6.evanced.info/melsa/ramsey/e...



VHEDC @VHEDC Mar 6
Hey @Vadnais_Heights and @cityofshoreview peeps! Looks what's up at @rcireads near you!

R.C. Johnson @Rcbeal Mar 6
Lots of learning to be had here, and it is all FREE! #library #TwinCities #Minnesota

RamseyCountyLibrary @rcireads
It's #teentechweek! Drop by The Brain Box and check out our 3D printer, vinyl cutter, sewing machine and more!



Andy Youso @ASandyOnAir
@FamilyFunTC
Chutes and Ladders, Como, Edinborough Park, Can Can Wonderland, Fantasy Flight Games, Big Thrill Factory, or any @rcireads!
LOVES 3
5:51 PM - 28 Feb 2017



Google/Yelp Reviews

Ramsey County Library - Maplewood

3025 Southlawn Dr, Maplewood, MN

4.3 ★★★★★ 26 reviews

Deborah Tafil
a week ago

★★★★★ Nice library location. If you like Thai food, there is a restaurant that smells amazing attached.

Ramsey County Library - Shoreview

4560 Victoria St N, Shoreview, MN

4.8 ★★★★★ 11 reviews

Mary S
a week ago

★★★★★ Brand new building! It is right next door to the old location. There is an expanded juvenile and children's area. The new building has lots of windows and good natural light. There are also more study rooms and a couple larger meeting rooms. Children's story time is also in a very large room designed for programs and events. There is also a teen area and lots of different areas for lounging and sitting. I definitely recommend checking it out.



Sort by: Most recent

Ramsey County Library - Roseville

2180 Hamline Ave N, Roseville, MN

4.5 ★★★★★ 44 reviews



Sort by: Most recent

Judy tripp
in the last week

★★★★★ Ilya many of those homeless people probably look and smell better than you do...do you know if the librarians shower every day, or if they even have running water at home? no, you don't know that...many people can not afford health care... More

Helpful?

Vikram Phadke
a week ago

★★★★★ Great place to work or study. Lots of room, good amount of parking, well lit, and is quiet. Dunn bros coffee shop is attached, which imo has the best coffee.

Helpful?

Jacob Bowdoin
a week ago

★★★★★ A good selection of books are available here

In a glitzy era for libraries, core mission shows signs of decline

In an era of extensive building and remodeling, the state Department of Education reports drops in the number of visits, registered users and loans of material.

By David Peterson (<http://www.startribune.com/david-peterson/10645651/>) Star Tribune

JANUARY 15, 2017 — 9:53PM

The new Hennepin County branch library in Brooklyn Park is about as Instagrammable as any public building you'll ever see. From the Ojibwe canoe-inspired bike rack to the wall of glowing multicolored tubes for instant art and the wind tunnel spitting out toys in the kid zone, it radiates high spirits.

But there's a growing disconnect between the increasing razzmatazz of library buildings and the traditional vital signs of library performance.

In an era of extensive building and remodeling of library facilities, the Minnesota Department of Education is reporting drops in the number of visits, registered users and loans of material. The use of library computers is down sharply, as the number available to the public surges.

The \$23.5 million Brooklyn Park library got an admiring mention last month from the national Library Journal. But the Journal gave no stars to the Hennepin County Library system, once an elite five-star performer, for the second straight year.

Librarians respond, in the words of the Hennepin system's Ali Turner, that "numbers don't tell the whole story." Of the system's lost stars, she said: "It is an honor [to get them] and we like to be part of that, but it's a bit of a numbers game" for a system that is "not solely focused on volume but on quality."

The reaction in St. Paul, where the library system also lost its national three-star rating in recent years, is similar. "It's hard to know what those numbers are telling us," said spokeswoman Phoebe Larson.

It may just point to a metamorphosis in the purpose of the facilities. Both state and national experts agree that there's a lot more to libraries these days than traditional measures such as visits and materials lent. The digital age is making it challenging to measure how useful libraries are, as people tap into databases from home rather than set foot in a building.

The star system "is not an index of the quality of your service, it judges you solely on things we can get data about," said Keith Curry Lance, a Denver-based consultant who coproduces it.

In the metro area, the Ramsey County Library system has gone in the opposite direction from Hennepin and St. Paul, achieving star status in recent years that it didn't have before. Much of suburban Ramsey County boasts upscale demographics, with 75 percent of households having a library card. Officials from other systems point to the Roseville branch as a star performer, leading the state in visits and circulation.

"Roseville is beautiful and huge," Larson said. Added Turner: "Roseville is right in that sweet spot of being perfect to drive to, and having the coffee shop. But circulation is not the only mark of excellence."

A focus on quality

In terms of national reputation, the Hennepin system isn't suffering, Lance said. "It has been legendary in the library world for as long as I've known the field," he said.

One major change for the system was its 2008 merger with the Minneapolis city



(http://stmedia.startribune.com/images/ows_14844373527586.jpg)

GLEN STUBBE

Coni Shegog mixed his rap song using one of the Brooklyn Park library's desktop computers.



(http://stmedia.startribune.com/image/ows_148443734773181.jpg)

(http://stmedia.startribune.com/images/2000*1229/08-1002871985+13LIB011517.JPG)

Kilik Lom, 2, played with a junior-size light board at Gallery Brooklyn Park library, Brooklyn Park's artist-designed bike rack.

Data compiled by state officials for the Star Tribune show that the combined Hennepin/Minneapolis system now is open for business fully 24,646 hours a year more than it used to be; all other metro libraries combined show just a tiny uptick. The 2006 deal to build Target Field included money for library hours.

The national data also show that Hennepin has invested in desktop computers for users to an extraordinary degree compared with other big systems. Did it overspend for that, when trends are moving to more use of patrons' own devices on library Wi-Fi? Turner says no.

"We still see intense use of desktops and a lot of waiting," she said. "We sometimes move machines to different branches according to demand."

The state's data show that the Hennepin system is the only big one in the metro area to register a drop in people attending programs at the libraries in the past 10 years. At the same time, a huge flow of state arts and culture funding has helped push other metro area systems' performance from 292,000 attendees a year to 458,000.

That's a classic case where numbers can deceive, Turner said. "We are not solely focused on volume but on quality," she said. "When we do a workshop for artists on business plans, or writing workshops, we may not draw 300 people ... but we are perfectly comfortable with a high-impact strategic approach."

Amid some skepticism from analysts, there's a move away from quantity measures and toward attempts to document the quality of what libraries do. There's a lot of buzz about the national Public Library Association's "Project Outcome," described as an effort to "help public libraries understand and share the true impact of essential library services and programs."

Happy patrons

The new \$23.5 million Brooklyn Park library is proof that the very mission of libraries is changing. Beyond the flashy experiences for kids, there's a recording studio in the teen area, more space for meetings, plug-ins everywhere for mobile devices and a conference room suitable for Skyping on a huge flat screen.

"I grew up with the old library here," said Alissa Knutsen, who brings 2-year-old Kilik once a week. "I couldn't believe the setup here. My son just begs and begs and begs to come to the library."

Kathryn Zimmerman, whose title at the library is "patron experience supervisor," said she was amazed when Hennepin County's Maple Grove branch opened a few years ago. But Brooklyn Park, she said, "is a whole 'nother level."

Knutsen said her 2-year-old was drawn to the library by the social fun but doesn't just play on the flashy toys; he brings home 15 books a week. Officials said the library lent out 10,000 more items in July than in the same month in 2015, with similar jumps in the months after that, and issued 490 new library cards in August vs. 192 in the same month the year before.

The new-style library is producing happy patrons, Lance said, but he's suspicious of efforts to document the value gained via the kinds of user surveys libraries are leaning toward.

McLaughlin's take: In an era when the concept of a library is evolving, challenges arise in documenting library quality. "But I don't see its value waning."

Adding some 'glitz' to a library isn't the problem, it's a solution

Providing up-to-date "core services" leads to tremendous growth — and new readers.

By Kristi Pearson JANUARY 19, 2017 — 1:06PM

I appreciate the attention to Hennepin County Library's efforts to engage our community in "Warning lights for libraries: New buildings delight, but core mission shows signs of decline:" (Jan. 15). However, I feel compelled to point out that this sensational headline represents a misunderstanding of libraries' roles in the 21st century.

The article juxtaposes innovative features of the new Brooklyn Park Library with statistics that show library visits and loans have dropped slightly in recent years across Minnesota. However, Minnesota's 10-year trend line is positive, and the numbers reflect the increasing popularity of online resources.

The article also fails to provide important context on Hennepin County's performance in Library Journal's "Star Rankings." Because the rankings rely on limited statistics, their authors explicitly state that they do not measure "the quality, excellence, effectiveness, value, or appropriateness of library services."

Nationally, only 3 percent of libraries qualified for one star or more, and only three of Minnesota's 141 public libraries qualified for a star. Our "core mission" is not to achieve national rankings, but to nourish minds, transform lives and build community together. Sometimes that means evolving to meet changing patron needs.

While many still think of libraries as warehouses for books, it is more accurate to understand 21st century libraries as, in the words of author Neil Gaiman, "places that people go to for information."

This means continuously adding to our collection of 5 million physical items in 40 languages, but also offering up-to-date digital access to content in fast-moving fields like medicine and law. It means tailoring programs to specific communities — from literacy training for parents of preschoolers, to building pop-up libraries in underserved neighborhoods, to helping inmates record themselves reading to their children.

We are proud of the kudos that the new Brooklyn Park Library has received, and we are more proud of what is happening inside the building:

- A Homework Help after-school tutoring program that connects 300 adult volunteers with more than 1,400 children and teens.
- A Tech Center that features a full-service recording studio with green screen and 18 workstations loaded with high-end creative software like ProTools and Adobe.

I agree with the article that Hennepin County Library remains one of the most admired systems in the country. Some 840,000 people checked out more than 16 million items last year.

In Brooklyn Park, "core services" have experienced tremendous growth since the new building opened in June. Monthly circulation increased by more than 40 percent from the previous year, and requests for library cards doubled.

If anything, the evidence suggests that adding a little well-deserved "glitz" to our libraries may not be the problem behind declining attendance. It may be the solution.

Kristi Pearson is executive director, Friends of the Hennepin County Library.



(http://stmedia.startribune.com/images/ows_148478278697196.jpg)

GLEN STUBBE

The new Hennepin County library in Brooklyn Park has introduced innovations that some say have come at the expense of fewer library



BLOG

On Books

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(<http://www.startribune.com/variety/blogs/OnBooks/>)

Club Book to bring in Yaa Gyasi, Lily King, Kao Kalia Yang and others

By Laurie Hertzell JANUARY 20, 2017 — 6:26AM



Yaa Gyasi

CREDIT: Michael Lionstar

Yaa Gyasi. Photo by Michael Lionstar.

The new season of Club Book will showcase 10 authors over four months, including local writers Lorna Landvik and Kao Kalia Yang and nationally recognized writers Yaa Gyasi, Lily King and Jamie Ford.

All events are free and open to the public, paid for by the state's Legacy Amendment and curated by the Metropolitan Library Service Agency.

Over the past seven years, Club Book has brought more than 100 authors to libraries across the metro area. Here is the list for winter/spring 2017:

Nnedi Okorafor. 7 p.m. Feb. 22, Roseville Library, 2180 Hamline Av. N., Roseville. Okorafor is the best-selling author of science fiction and fantasy books, including "Akata Witch" and "The Book of Phoenix."

Kao Kalia Yang. 7 p.m. Feb. 27, Rum River Library, 4201 6th Av., Anoka. Yang, who lives in St Paul, is the author of two memoirs, "The Latehomecomer," which won two Minnesota Book Awards, and "The Song Poet," a finalist for a National Book Critics Circle award.

Chris Pavone. 6:30 p.m. March 6, R.H. Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Pl, Woodbury. Pavone is the author of mystery and spy thrillers, including "The Expats" and "The Travelers" and has won both an Edgar and an Anthony award.

Richard Zacks. 7 p.m. March 7, Southdale Library, 7001 York Av. S., Edina. Historian Zacks has written about pirates, Captain Kidd, Thomas Jefferson and others. His new book, "Chasing the Last Laugh," is about Mark Twain's around-the-world tour.

Jamie Ford. 7 p.m. March 14, Prior Lake Library, 16210 Eagle Creek Av., Prior Lake. Ford is the author of "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet," and Songs of Willow Frost."

Lily King. 7 p.m. April 4, Stillwater Public Library, 224 3rd St. N., Stillwater. King, whose October Club Book appearance was postponed, is the author of "Euphoria," one of the New York Times' top ten books of 2014 and winner of the Kirkus Prize for Fiction.

Julie Rivett. 7 p.m. April 20, Stillwater Public Library. The granddaughter of Dashiell Hammett, Rivett has edited five books on Hammett's work, including his selected letters and "Return of the Thin Man." She appears in conjunction with ArtReach St. Croix and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Lorna Landvik. 6:30 p.m. April 25, Chanhassen Public Library, 771 Kerber Blvd., Chanhassen. Comedian, actress and author Landvik lives in the Twin Cities and is the author of "Patty Jane's House of Curl," "Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons," and many other novels. Her new novel, "Once in a Blue Moon Lodge," will be released in April.

Yaa Gyasi. 7 p.m. May 11, Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Av., St. Paul. Gyasi's novel, "Homegoing," (<http://www.startribune.com/review-homegoing-by-yaa-gyasi/383341591/>) won the John Leonard Prize for outstanding first book from the National Book Critics Circle. She is the recipient of the National Book Foundation's "5 Under 35" award.

OLDER POST ([HTTP://WWW.STARTRIBUNE.COM/LOUISE-ERDRICH-FOUR-OTHER-MINNESOTA-WRITERS-FINALISTS-FOR-PRESTIGIOUS-NATIONAL-AWARD/410839605/](http://www.startribune.com/LOUISE-ERDRICH-FOUR-OTHER-MINNESOTA-WRITERS-FINALISTS-FOR-PRESTIGIOUS-NATIONAL-AWARD/410839605/))

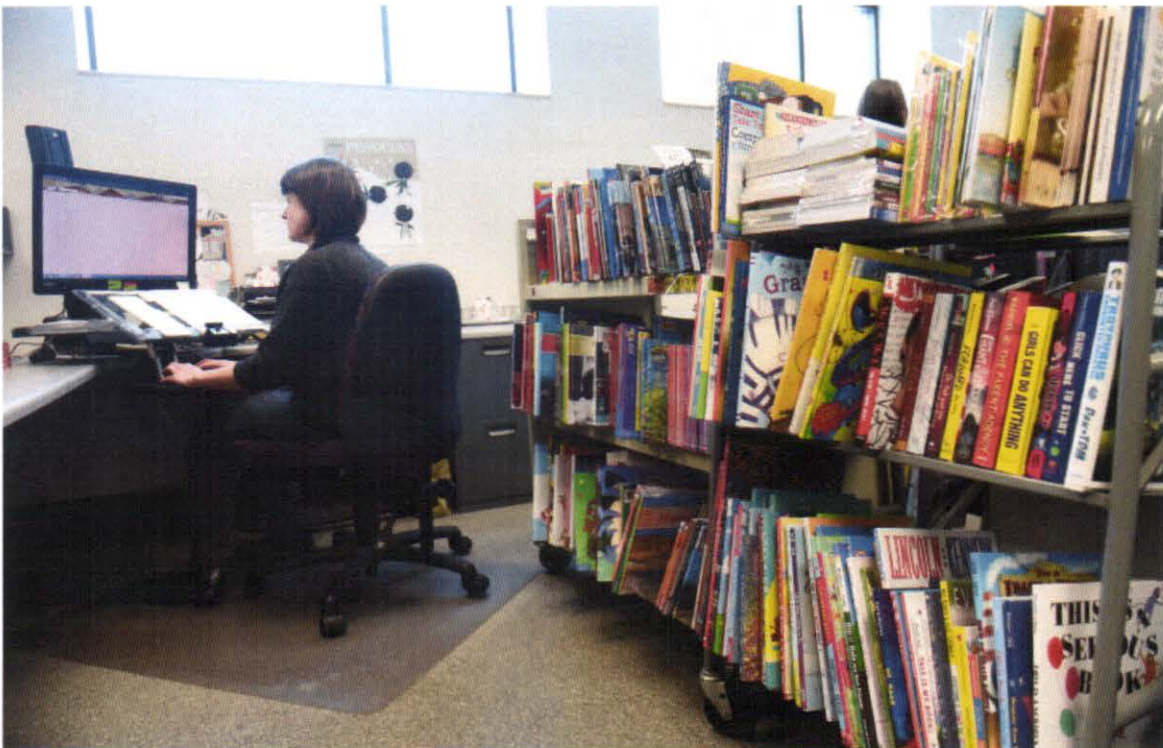
Louise Erdrich, four other Minnesota writers finalists for prestigious national award (<http://www.startribune.com/louise-erdrich-four-other-minnesota-writers-finalists-for-prestigious-national-award/410839605/>)



(<http://www.startribune.com/variety/blogs/OnBooks/>)

Laurie Hertzell is senior editor for books at the Star Tribune, where she has worked since 1996. She is the author of "News to Me: Adventures of an Accidental Journalist," winner of a Minnesota Book Award.

This woman figures out which books to put on public library shelves. How does she do it?



Katy Schulz and her staff are the people who select the materials purchased for the St. Paul Public Library system, predicting the fickle and ephemeral tastes of St. Paul's citizenry in advance, photographed January 19, 2017. (Pioneer Press: Scott Takushi)

By [TAD VEZNER](#) | tvezner@pioneerpress.com | Pioneer Press

PUBLISHED: January 21, 2017 at 7:00 am | UPDATED: January 21, 2017 at 11:39 pm

Few understand the high stakes of the fast-paced library materials world as fully as Katy Schulz.

"The 'best-seller' lists are too late for us. Months too late," Schulz says.

She and her staff of behind-the-scenes "selectors" must be the Nostradamuses of St. Paul's public library system: deciding which 100,000 or so new books will hit the shelves every given year.

Predicting the fickle and ephemeral tastes of St. Paul's citizenry is hardly easy. She laughs out loud when a reporter asked whether orders are done annually. As in, just once a year.

"No, no, that would be horrible. That would be disastrous!" Books must be considered monthly. Weekly.

And the orders never stop. The wait lists are always there. Growing, taunting, reminding them there's something to fix. St. Paul citizens tend to be unusually voracious readers — with dozens of additional demands every week.

Schulz is the wait list's pre-emptive enemy: It's her job to make sure the books are there, before people even know they want them.

How does she do it?



Sally Orne sorts materials in the delivery area of the Sun Ray branch library in St. Paul, January 19, 2017. (Pioneer Press: Scott Takushi)

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Schulz's work station is backed by rows of books that likely won't ever hit the shelves. At the moment there's a lot of juvenile nonfiction — things sent by publishers with high hopes.

"Frankly, no one has the time to read them," Schulz says of the books, which come and go. The shelves, even though they're on wheels, will always loom.

"They never move. They stay there forever."

The day starts off with book reviews on her computer screen — Schulz typically peruses more than 100 a week, sent before the books are even published. By now, "Most of the names are familiar and I have a sense of what kind of books they write. ... We read them really fast."

That's the obvious part. Then there are the things she's picked up over the years.

A lot of places reviewing the same pre-published book is a good sign.

"If it's just one, then ... eeeh," Schulz says.

Starred reviews. Local authors. Good explanations for why authors are famous.

Come New Year's, it's always time to order a bunch of health and diet books. Sure, by February, they're mostly back on the shelves — but best to accommodate that early burst of optimism.

There's summer beach read season, school season, tax season, standardized test season ...

"A lot of teachers and kids, you're always going to need a bunch of apple books in the fall," Schulz says. That is, books about the fruit, not the computer. Kids like apples. Teachers like the letter 'A.'

Occasionally, Schulz looks to her internal reports for portents.

"What are people stealing? Let's get lots of those," Schulz says.

But in some ways, she admits the premise is a poor predictor: the "gone missing" trend almost solely favors teen fiction. When she checked years ago, author Ellen Hopkins topped the list.

So it's back to the grindstone: newsletters — most sent by middleman book vendors or the publishers themselves. And book expos. Gigantic print runs and marketing blitzes are pretty easy to spot.

"I have a lot of promotional pens," Schulz says.

DEFIANT ST. PAULITES

And perhaps it's a self-fulfilling prophecy — flood a market, get a market — but Schulz notes publishers are often "surprisingly accurate" with those marketing pushes.



Katy Schulz (Pioneer Press: Scott Takushi)

Biggest order last year, at 42 copies: "Diary of a Wimpy Kid #11, Double Down."

Most stolen book last year: "Diary of a Wimpy Kid #5, The Ugly Truth."

"'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' is almost always the answer," Schulz jokes. Or at least half-jokes.

Still, "holds" — books placed on reserve — have a definite adult slant these days.

The current king isn't "Harry Potter," it's "Hillbilly Elegy," by J.D. Vance, with a whopping 132 holds this week and 25 copies to go around. Next in line: Ann Pratchett's "Commonwealth," with 122 holds.

But the publishers can't always prognosticate. St. Paul has its own preferences — often defiantly avoiding best-sellers.

In nonfiction, "They don't always go for the politics books," Schulz says.

It's a phenomenon that's particularly notable in music stock.

"The Top-40 stuff doesn't sell very well here," said Patrick Reckas-Jackson, the "selector" for the library's CD, DVD and MP3 selections. "The Current is clearly a bigger driver for our patron base than the Top 40."

"A new Mumford & Sons will get more play at the library than Justin Bieber. It (Bieber) will still get checked out, there'll still be a waiting list, but it won't be the most popular."

Reckas-Jackson said he makes an effort to select the eclectic — at least a few, here and there. In some ways, he sees the library as a last bastion for browsers — and keeps the occasional obscure 1970s Italian horror movie in stock, just in case.

"If all we are is the new Marvel movie, even the people who want the Marvel movie might not come to us," he says.

Schulz agrees that the hot new stuff is only a tiny part. It's not just libraries: according to Barnes & Noble's 2016 annual report, only 4 percent to 6 percent of sales were from best-sellers. Take foreign language books: Expensive, hard to get — and checked out rarely. But ...

"Book stores are for people who can buy stuff. And libraries are for everyone," Schulz says. "Nobody is going to go to a book store and buy a whole encyclopedia. Well, maybe not nobody, but not enough to have any sort of table display."

Ultimately, it's the librarians who decide what gets pulled from the shelves, not Schulz or her selectors. For every 100,000 books that arrive annually, a roughly equal number are removed — either from extreme wear and tear or if they haven't seen any action for a year or more.

"My shelves are high real estate," notes Mary Knox, branch manager at the system's West Seventh Library, the smallest branch in the system outside the book mobile.

"Weeding," as it's called, is a process laden with trepidation. There are always doubts. Yes, you have to make way for the new John Sandford or William Kent Krueger — local authors that Knox finds impossible to keep in stock — but ...

"You're always afraid of pulling up something that was like your rosebush," Knox says, comparing her collection to her home garden.

THE PREDICTION GAME

Certainly, mistakes are made.

It happened in 2013, but Schulz remembers it like yesterday: Beverley Brenna's "The White Bicycle" got a Printz award for young-adult literature.

"And I had never heard of it," she says, allowing herself a moment of silence.

But when it comes to kids books, it's Garfield that consistently mystifies her.

"With Garfield, I don't know, they go, like, crazy. It doesn't make any sense to me, but there it is. It doesn't even seem, like, very kid-friendly."

What about the popularity of "Peanuts"?

"Not so much."

Then take "Hillbilly Elegy" — currently at the top of the "holds" list.

"If I'd read the description of it a year ago, I don't think I would've predicted it would've done well," says Jessica Zillhart, the selector for adult nonfiction — a job she's held for six months. "If something gets blurbed as the next 'Hillbilly Elegy,' I'd certainly pay attention."

Trends can create their own gravity quicker than you think. Books on the Danish "Hygge" concept of "coziness," for example, exploded in a very un-hygge way last year.

RELATED: Danish 'hygge' is the perfect antidote to winter gloom

"I feel like there's always a fireplace on the cover. ... I remember hearing one (pitch) a few years ago, but now I feel it's everywhere," Zillhart says.

It could be worse: Zillhart used to haplessly try to predict young-adult fiction. Mention vampires now and you'll be lucky if your kid talks to you again.

"Oh, I get it, people were looking for mermaids. No, mermaids were last year's," Zillhart quips.

"It was vampires and then it was dystopias. Now, I don't know," says branch manager Knox.

But Zillhart still has her old standbys.

“History is one of those weirdly evergreen topics, given it’s ... history. World War II is incredibly popular.”

And for now, she’s seeing spikes in “a lot of books about the economy. A lot of authors who feel like the state of our country is bad, and trying to figure out who’s to blame.

“It’ll be interesting to see which ones get popular.”

Tags: St. Paul



Tad Vezner

Tad Vezner covers the city of St. Paul, Ramsey County and sometimes the Capitol for the Pioneer Press. He has been with the paper since 2006. He can be reached at 651-228-5461.

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By: [Huffingtonpost.com](#)

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http://www.presspubs.com/shoreview/news/article_5c7c1ed8-e274-11e6-805f-37bf9b447470.html

New Shoreview Library opening this week

By Sara Marie Moore/Shoreview Editor Jan 24, 2017



Shoreview Library | Submitted

A new children's area with nature-inspired learning centers is part of the new Shoreview Library.

SHOREVIEW — Where can you print a lime green octopus in 3-D? The new Shoreview Library, of course.

The Shoreview Library will hold its grand opening 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28. In preparation for its 3-D printing demonstrations to take place that day, a lime green octopus was being printed when the Press stopped by last week.

There will also be various activities throughout the day.

The new 38,000-square-foot library sits right next to the smaller building that was its older home —

it was 10,000 square feet smaller. That building is being transformed into offices for Mounds View Schools this summer.

In the old library building, the book drop was in the basement and staff had to carry the books upstairs. In the new building, all the offices and book drop are on the same level as the books.

“This is much more efficient; it is much more streamlined,” said Carol Jackson, library manager. Now, a conveyor belt will sort books based on their barcodes and drop them into bins. That will allow staff to spend more time on customer service, said Jill Boldenow, library director.

The building was designed by HGA Architects.

“They took their inspiration from Shoreview's rich, natural heritage,” Jackson said.

During community meetings, residents expressed a love for their lakes and greenery, said Kristina Saksvig, communications manager.

“That is really what the designers worked from,” she said. “The carpet is named waterfall.” Walnut accents fill the building. A long oak laptop bar was made out of oaks taken down at the site when the library was being built.

The children's area has a giant simulated tree trunk with stuffed animals to read in — an “immersive environment” built by the Minnesota Children's Museum, Saksvig said.

A park ranger office and puppet theater are also planned in the children's area. The library hopes that a miniature horse can be added to its animal therapy program — in the past, therapy dogs have come to the library so children can practice reading to them without fear of being criticized, Jackson said.

The Shoreview library has about 9,000 children coming through its programming annually, and the old building had a very small children's area, Saksvig said.

“So this was needed,” she noted.

In the old building, staff would need to move items around to make room for children's programming. Now, there is a separate room next to the children's book area where story time and other activities can be held. The room can also be used for adult events — author talks and historical society events, for example. Gallery 96, a local arts organization, also raised money for an art gallery to be

in the room.

The library also has a designated teen area and has a teen librarian. There are only three teen librarians in all of Ramsey County's libraries, Jackson said. The area includes a walled-off study area, teen computers and books, and a 3-D printer.

There will be programming about 3-D printing for both teens and adults.

In the front of the building are large print and talking books.

“Those are two areas we get a lot of requests for,” Jackson said.

Besides books and other media —\$50,000 worth of new materials was added, Saksvig said — the library also has study rooms, a book club room, computers with internet access, and a lounge area next to a hydro fireplace that crackles. The fireplace uses no extra heat.

The building was built to be environmentally efficient. It will adhere to B3 Sustainable Building 2030 (SB 2030) energy standards, based on the program aiming to reduce energy and carbon use in Minnesota.

If the building is maintained to SB 2030 standards for two years, it will be the first library in the state to be in the program, Saksvig said.

Lights near large windows actually turn down lower during peak daytime hours. Glass facing the sunset is “fritted” to deflect rays so birds see it as a solid wall.

At the front entrance, a tower bearing the word “library” and the names of 250 Minnesota authors beckons people inside to read, Jackson said.

Ramsey County Library staff researched and chose the authors, being sure to include a diverse range of literature.

When residents first visit the library, they may notice the interior design throwback to mid-century modern styles. Clean lines, bright colors and sleek furniture fill every corner of the new building.

An opening ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on grand opening day. HGA Architects will give a presentation on its design work at 11:30 a.m. The Mounds View High School orchestra will play at 12:30 p.m. An ice sculpture demonstration will be held outside noon to 1:30. Caricature sketches will

be held 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. and a robotics demonstration will be held 2 to 4 p.m. A comedy show will be held at 2 p.m. Children's crafts will take place all day.

The library also has more open hours: Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

"People in Shoreview love their library," Jackson said.

The library is also now designated a "regional library" and its reach is expected to extend to all neighboring cities, Jackson said.

The library is located at 4560 N. Victoria Street. For more information, visit <http://www.rcireads.org/> or call 651-724-6006.

Sara Marie Moore can be reached at 651-407-1235 or shoreviewnews@presspubs.com.

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New Shoreview library set to open Jan. 28

Submitted by admin on Wed, 01/25/2017 - 12:00am

By: [Jesse Poole \(/by/jesse-poole\)](#)



[\(/articles/2017/01/25/new-shoreview-library-set-open-jan-28\)](#)

Area residents will be able to take advantage of Shoreview's significantly upgraded library facility come Jan. 28.



[\(/articles/2017/01/25/new-shoreview-library-set-open-jan-28\)](/articles/2017/01/25/new-shoreview-library-set-open-jan-28)

Shoreview's new library, which opens Jan. 28, features extra space for children and teens, a significant increase in books and audio-visuals, as well as an abundance of natural light and seating.



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The new building has a large community program room that can fit about 125 people.



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Many children's books face outward, so kids can browse by bookcover rather than by spine.



Though located right beside the old library, which was built in the 1990s, the two facilities reflect very different eras, and missions. It's not only design and style that differentiate the old and the new.

The newly built library building, at 4560 Victoria St. N., is 60 percent larger than its predecessor, coming in at 38,000 square feet. That extra space means more services, programs, amenities, staff and general personal space for consumers of books and media.

The new space

Walking through the new library, visitors will notice plenty of dispersed seating, much of which is offered through comfortable, modern, colorful and sometimes amusing chairs, benches and stools.

However, seating in the open space is not the only place to hunker down and dive into a book or enjoy a community program.

While the former library, which closed Nov. 23, had one community program room with a seating capacity of 32 people, and a pair of two-person study rooms, the new building offers a much larger community program room with a capacity of 125-plus, a book club room that can seat 12, a conference room that can host eight, and three first-come-first-serve two-person study rooms.

In addition to all the quiet concentration-centered space, the new library offers an upgrade in the children's area, with books facing horizontally rather than vertically on the shelves so children can browse books, looking at book covers rather than thin, sometimes stapled spines, much the way vinyl records are browsed in music stores.

For children needing time away from words and pictures on pages, the library has an interactive play space in the form of a giant tree stump meant to be crawled on and through — the structure comes from the Minnesota Children's Museum. The library is gearing up to get two more interactive structures from the museum in the near future.

And for youngsters who are tuckered out or over-excited, the library offers a new "comfort room."



</articles/2017/01/25/new-shoreview-library-set-open-jan-28>

Teens will have the option to sit in these comfortable, possibly addictive hydraulic-like lime green swivel chairs in the teen area.



</articles/2017/01/25/new-shoreview-library-set-open-jan-28>

Just one of the fun new additions, folks will be able to sit and read by this safe, fake but mesmerizing fireplace.



</articles/2017/01/25/new-shoreview-library-set-open-jan-28>

The new library offers both structures for children to climb on and quiet

There's also a room that can welcome about six caregivers and children for small library-offered children's programs.

Swivel chairs

But it's not just about the younger children, Shoreview library manager Carol Jackson said. Teens have an entire corner of the building devoted to their needs and interests.

"The teen space is easily three times the space we had in the old building," Jackson said.

According to Jackson, a few hydraulic-like lime green swivel chairs are bound to be the center of attention, but desks for studying, reading and getting together also line the space, along with computers.

A 12-person room in the far right corner of the teen space is a place where teens can meet for various programs and events.

It's also purposed for administrative board meetings, which means it will probably stay fairly clean and tidy.

An upgrade in content

According to Jackson, the library system has invested \$50,000 in new books and audio-visual materials so far.

She said if the "Capital Campaign," which funds additional materials, art and amenities, "continues to flourish, we will be able to add another \$50,000 in materials to our collection."

Other than new materials, what's already been upgraded includes a media space offering additional Internet workstations in the children's and teen rooms, as well as built-in projectors and technology in program rooms. There's a new 3D printer, which was funded through the Shoreview Community Foundation, and a new media lab that will contain audio and video editing software.

"We've created spaces that we're hoping will fulfill a variety of needs for our patrons — ample, comfortable program space for classes and programs; technology and program space for teens;

spaces for adults to sit and read or study.



comfortable, welcoming space for children to build their early literacy skills and grow to love books and reading,” Jackson said.

‘Warm and welcoming’

Though it does offer significantly upgraded space to a generally more energetic population — children and teens — the library is designed to welcome adults as well.

“We have planned this library to be a warm and welcoming space for the community,” Jackson said. “Whether patrons are coming in for a quiet place to study or read, bringing their computer to work on our laptop bar or attending children’s programming, a teen technology program, our drop-in tech labs, or a book club, we are dedicated to creating a wonderful environment for everyone.”

Jackson explained that the building and staff alike are dedicated to helping create an “inclusive space — one that is accessible not only physically for patrons with a variety of needs, but also accessible through our customer service and efficient work processes.”

Jackson reminds folks that some construction and amenities, as well as design details and media content, will be a work-in-progress over the coming weeks, months and years.

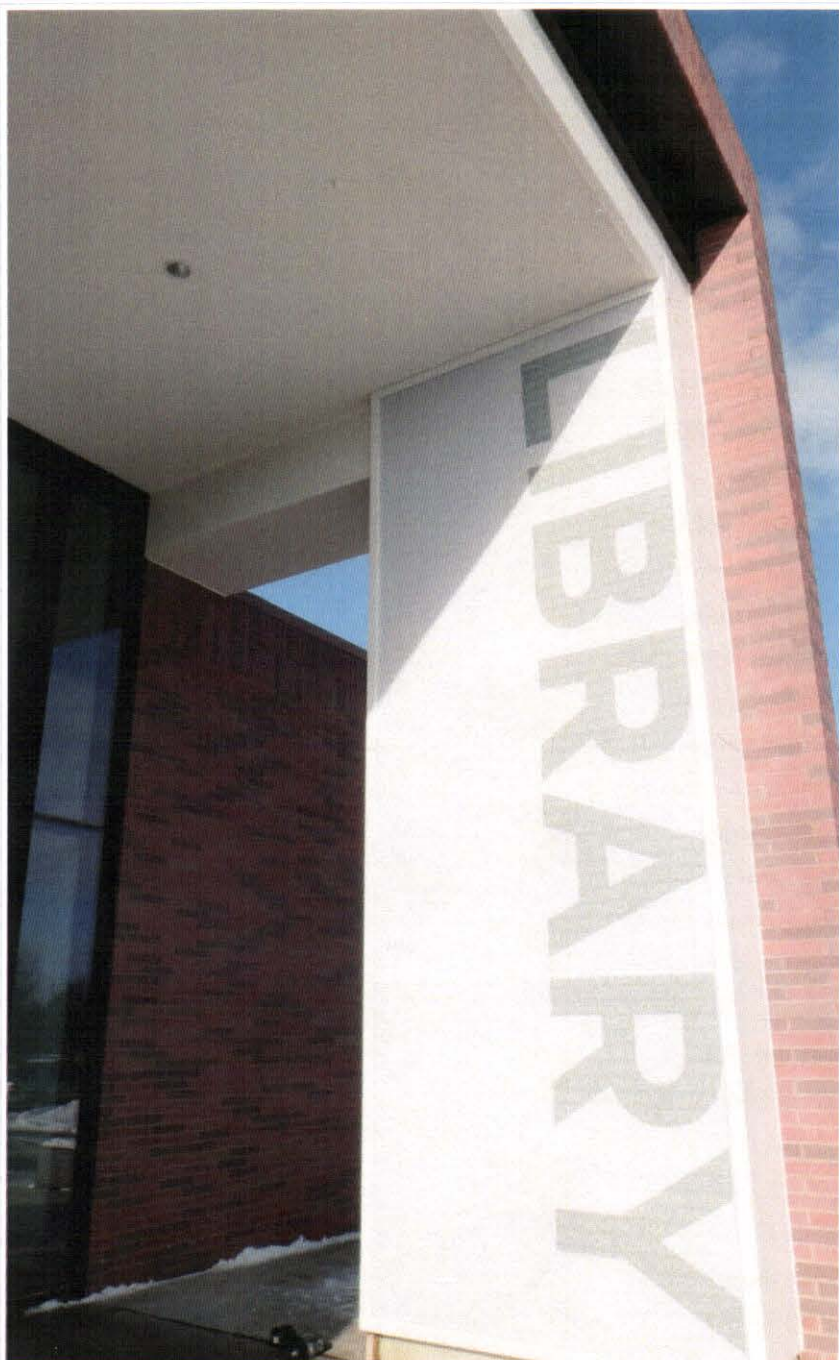
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A vertical sign at the library's entrance subtly carries the names of 250 Minnesota authors of fiction, poetry, plays and nonfiction.

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New Shoreview library to open Saturday



The Ramsey County Library will open its new \$15.8 million branch in Shoreview on Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017. The library is located at 4560 N. Victoria St. (Photo courtesy Ramsey County Library)

By **PIONEER PRESS** | news@pioneerpress.com |

January 26, 2017 at 8:58 pm

Featuring a large children's area and another for teens, the new Ramsey County Library in Shoreview will open to the public Saturday.

A grand opening ceremony is planned for 10 a.m. Saturday at the new library, the latest Ramsey County site to get an upgrade. Residents will get a chance to take in the larger library, with its warm colors and textures, large and open spaces and its expanded collection.

“The library worked closely with the community to create a welcoming facility that will fill a variety of needs. ... I look forward to opening the doors Saturday so everyone can see what we created together.” Ramsey County Library Director Jill Boldenow said.

Original plans called for spending \$10 million to renovate the old 28,000-square-foot library in Shoreview, but design issues and limited expansion space posed problems.

That building, built in 1992, stood at Highway 96 and North Victoria Street. It will be sold to the Mounds View School District to be used as administrative offices.

The new neighboring location will add more space at a cost of \$15.8 million. The 38,000-square-foot library sits in the city’s commons area, which is also home to Shoreview City Hall, the Shoreview Community Center, athletic fields and other buildings.



The old library building in Shoreview will be turned into administrative offices for Mounds View schools. (City of Shoreview photo)

The Shoreview library is expected to serve residents of North Oaks, Gem Lake, Vadnais Heights, Shoreview and parts of Arden Hills. It is the latest in a number of recent Ramsey County library projects; others include a new library in Maplewood, big renovations in Roseville and White Bear Lake and a new location in New Brighton.

Library users in Shoreview will note the brick façade outdoors patterned to resemble bookstacks, the floor-to-ceiling windows and a plaza. Inside, the single-story space features a large children's area and an expanded teen location; a fireplace and plenty of collaborative group spaces; a conference room and a community room that can seat up to 100 people; as well as twice as many Internet terminals.

Saturday's ceremonies will begin with a ribbon cutting at 10 a.m. Events during the day include live music, tours and ice carving demonstrations.

Tags: Books Ramsey County



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VIEW COMMENTS

Minnesota Book Awards finalists announced

By [Mary Ann Grossmann](#) | mgrossmann@pioneerpress.com | Pioneer Press
January 28, 2017 at 6:24 pm

A mix of experienced authors and debut writers make up the list of finalists for 29th annual Minnesota Book Awards, announced Saturday by Friends of the St. Paul Public Library and sponsored by Education Minnesota.

Award winners will be announced Saturday, April 8, at InterContinental Saint Paul Riverfront. A reception begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by the awards ceremony at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$40 – \$55, available at thefriends.org or by calling 651-222-3242.

Here are the finalists. (Stars indicate Minnesota publishers)

Children's Literature, sponsored by Books For Africa:



“Tell Me a Tattoo Story” by Alison McGhee, illustrated by Eliza Wheeler (Chronicle Books)

“This Is Not a Cat!” by David LaRochelle, illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka (Sterling Children's Books/Sterling Publishing)

“Worm Loves Worm” by J.J. Austrian, illustrated by Mike Curato (Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins Publishers)

“Yellow Time” by Lauren Stringer (Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster)

General Nonfiction:

“Canoes: A Natural History in North America” by Mark Neuzil and Norman Sims (University of Minnesota Press)*

“Designing Our Way to a Better World” by Thomas Fisher (University of Minnesota Press)*

“Thrill Me: Essays on Fiction” by Benjamin Percy (Graywolf Press)*

“The War on Science: Who’s Waging It, Why It Matters, What We Can Do About It” by Shawn Otto (Milkweed Editions)*

Genre Fiction, sponsored by Macalester College:



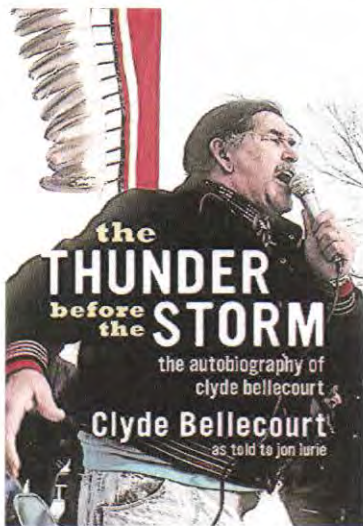
“The Born and the Made” by Robert Spande (self-published)

“The Heavens May Fall” by Allen Eskens (Seventh Street Books/Prometheus Books)

“Rise of the Spring Tide” by James Stitt (self-published)

“Stealing the Countess” by David Housewright (Minotaur Books/St. Martin’s Press)

Memoir & Creative Nonfiction, sponsored by Faegre Baker Daniels:



“I Live Inside: Memoirs of a Babe in Toyland” by Michelle Leon (Minnesota Historical Society Press) *

“The Song Poet: A Memoir of My Father” by Kao Kalia Yang (Metropolitan Books/Henry Holt and Company)

“This Is Where I Am: A Memoir” by Zeke Caligiuri (University of Minnesota Press)*

“The Thunder Before the Storm: The Autobiography of Clyde Bellecourt” by Clyde Bellecourt, as told to Jon Lurie (Minnesota Historical Society Press)*

Middle Grade Literature, sponsored by Education Minnesota:

“Little Cat’s Luck” by Marion Dane Bauer, illustrated by Jennifer A. Bell (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers/Simon & Schuster)

“Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor’s Story” by Caren Stelson (Carolrhoda Books/Lerner Publishing Group)*

“The Secret of Dreadwillow Carse” by Brian Farrey (Algonquin Young Readers/Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill)

“Sticks & Stones” by Abby Cooper (Farrar Straus Giroux/Macmillan)

Minnesota Nonfiction, sponsored by Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota:

“The Big Marsh: The Story of a Lost Landscape” by Cheri Register (Minnesota Historical Society Press)*

“The Ford Century in Minnesota” by Brian McMahon (University of Minnesota Press)*

“Richard F. Lack: Catalogue Raisonné 1943-1998” by Gary B. Christensen, biography by Stephen A. Gjertson (Afton Historical Society Press)*

“Women of Mayo Clinic: The Founding Generation” by Virginia M. Wright-Peterson (Minnesota Historical Society Press)*

Novel & Short Story, sponsored by Fitzgerald in Saint Paul:



“The Annie Year” by Stephanie Wilbur Ash (Unnamed Press)

“Do Not Find Me” by Kathleen Novak (The Permanent Press)

“LaRose” by Louise Erdrich (HarperCollins Publishers)

” Wintering” by Peter Geye (Alfred A. Knopf/Penguin Random House)

Poetry, sponsored by Wellington Management, Inc.:

” May Day” by Gretchen Marquette (Graywolf Press)*

“Tula” by Chris Santiago (Milkweed Editions)*

“Unbearable Splendor” by Sun Yung Shin (Coffee House Press)*

“Yes Thorn” by Amy Munson (Tupelo Press)

Young Adult Literature, sponsored by Brainfuse:



“Assassin’s Heart” by Sarah Ahiers (HarperTeen/HarperCollins Publishers)

” LGBTQ+ Athletes Claim the Field: Striving for Equality” by Kirstin Cronn-Mills (Twenty-First Century Books/Lerner Publishing Group)*

“The Memory Book” by Lara Avery (Poppy/Little, Brown and Company)

“Original Fake” by Kirstin Cronn-Mills, art by E. Eero Johnson (G. P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin Random House)



Mary Ann Grossmann

Mary Ann joined the Dispatch-Pioneer Press in 1961 when there were two papers. She has been a fashion writer, a women's columnist and the women's department editor who brought "society" pages into the 20th century. She was named book editor in 1983, just when the local literary community exploded. She has won the Minnesota Book Awards Kay Sexton Award, a Page One Award and YWCA Leader Lunch Award. She retired in 2001 and works part time. A graduate of Macalester College, she lives on St. Paul's West Side in a money-sucking Victorian house with assorted old animals.

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Roseville students, young and old, work together on monster art show

Submitted by admin on Tue, 01/31/2017 - 12:00am

By: [Mike Munzenrider \(/by/mike-munzenrider\)](#)



[\(/articles/2017/01/31/roseville-students-young-and-old-work-together-monster-art-show\)](#)

Sasquatch, Godzilla, King Kong, Loch Ness, a



[\(/articles/2017/01/31/roseville-students-young-and-old-work-together-monster-art-show\)](/articles/2017/01/31/roseville-students-young-and-old-work-together-monster-art-show)

The Collaborative Monster Creations Art Show, as seen at the Roseville Library, features artwork by Central Park Elementary School students reinterpreted by Roseville Area High School students. Seen here is junior William Nymoen's drawing beside a first-grader's work, on which it is based.



goblin, a ghoul, a zombie with no conscience — all these monsters have something in common — we interpret them as we will.

Art students at Central Park Elementary School and Roseville Area High School teamed up to put their own spin on monsters, and their work is on display at the Roseville Library through Friday, Feb. 10.

The Collaborative Monster Creations Art Show features monsters drawn by kindergarten and first-grade students from Central Park, hung side-by-side with drawings by RAHS art club members. The high-schoolers' artwork is based on the younger kids' ideas.

For example, the show's flier features a first-grader's drawing of a yellow creature next to a black octopus. The re-imagined drawing it's matched with, created by a RAHS junior, features a recognizably Godzilla-like creature battling the octopus under a yellow sun.

Central Park art teacher J. Mark Tinsley says the idea for the show is based on author and artist Dave Devries' "Monster Engine." Devries takes drawings by children and reinterprets them, creating works depicting monsters and superheroes.

"I remember just being captivated by it," says Tinsley, who has taught art in schools for six years, this being his first in the Roseville district and at Central Park.

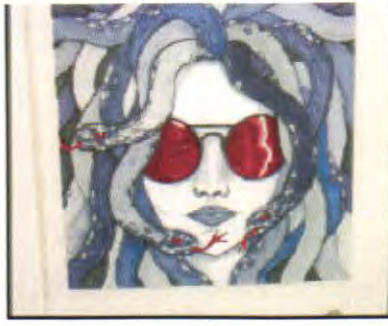
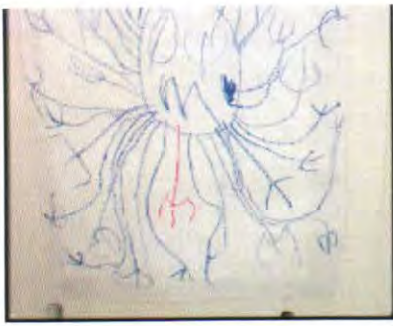
On shapes and monsters

Tinsley collaborated with RAHS art teacher Christina Christianson, who teaches photography, drawing and painting, to put together the art show. Christianson was Tinsley's student teacher; it's her first year on the job.

To get things going, Tinsley and his kindergarten and first-grade students read the monster-filled "Where The Wild Things Are."

That, coupled with lessons about shapes and colors and what makes things scary, was the jumping off point for the children to draw some "friendly" monsters. "They took the ball and ran with it," he says.





[/articles/2017/01/31/roseville-students-young-and-old-work-together-monster-art-show](http://articles/2017/01/31/roseville-students-young-and-old-work-together-monster-art-show)

The Collaborative Monster Creations Art Show, featuring work by students from Roseville schools, both young and old, is on display at the Roseville Library through Feb. 10.

tries to keep up on his weekly web comic, "Reckless Ruby," which can be found at www.recklessruby.thecomicseries.com (<http://www.recklessruby.thecomicseries.com>).

"I wasn't really sure if I should try to make it my own interpretation," he says, or work closely off what his first-grade counterpart had drawn. Nymoen says he went with the former, taking the younger student's drawing in his own direction.

"It's definitely inspired by Godzilla," he says of his work, while guessing the younger child's drawing was likely based off the "Pokemon" character Pikachu.

If the goal of the art show collaboration was to have students think about their work, Nymoen definitely has — he thought about all he'd watched growing up and its influence on his work. "It made me think of everything I think is cool," he says.

More monsters

The opening reception for The Collaborative Monster Creations Art Show was Jan. 12 at the library.

Christianson says it was a success. "The [elementary students] who showed up to the reception thought it was really cool," she says, adding that at least one passerby, a library patron, asked if the drawings were for sale. "It was a small but successful inaugural show."

For his part, Nymoen says he wishes his younger counterpart had been there — he wanted to ask him about the drawings,

Christianson took the elementary students' work to pair it with high-school artists — Tinsley says he gives her 99.9 percent of the credit for making the art show happen.

"We were looking for children's artwork that was decipherable," Christianson says, noting she sought out drawings with recognizable faces and shapes beyond the usual scribbles.

She says the goal of the project for the older students was to reflect on their own work and to look at subjects with younger eyes, in order to see their own growth.

Christianson says she picked a handful of advanced students to be involved with the show — they did their work after school as a part of the RAHS art club.

Godzilla vs. Pikachu

"I've been drawing as long as I can remember," says William Nymoen, a junior at RAHS, who's responsible for the giant golden lizard on the art show flier.

Nymoen says he'd like to be a comic book artist when he grows up, though he's got a back-up plan to study graphic design, just in case. He says he

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New Shoreview Library: open for business

Submitted by admin on Wed, 02/01/2017 - 12:00am



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The new Ramsey County Library in Shoreview held its Grand Opening on Saturday, Jan. 28. Clockwise from top: Kirti Jacob and her 4-year-old son Ethan, of Shoreview, look through an abundance of picture books on shelves specifically designed for kids — to be looked through by bookcover rather than spine; Shoreview Children's Librarian Angie Miller offers some computer help to Shoreview residents 8-year-old Jake Buche and his dad Charles; Michelle Wood and her 9-year-old son Grant, of North Oaks, browse an upgraded DVD selection.



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Ramsey County Library holds grand opening

Published February 3, 2017 at 10:15 am

By Sarah Burghardt



Many families enjoyed reading to their young loved ones during the Ramsey County Library grand opening. From left: Julie Neville reads to Ellen; Christian Blanck reads to Sammy; and Dana Blanck reads to Danica.



The Ramsey County Library held its grand opening celebration on Saturday, Jan. 28. Families were able to enjoy festivities all day and experience what their new expanded library has to offer. New amenities include artwork, a fireplace, over \$50,000 in new books and audio-visual materials, an enlarged children's area and much more. Ramsey County Library is located at 4570 North Victoria Street, Shoreview. (Sun Focus photos by Sarah Burghardt)

Filed Under: [Mounds View](#), [New Brighton](#), [Ramsey County Library](#)

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Polly Ellen Reinhardt, Mattias Patricelli and Isabella Patricelli play with LEGOs in the expanded children's area. Polly's grandfather JP Barone watches over.



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Kaycee Tokelson reads to daughter Stella.



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Filed Under: Mounds View, New Brighton, Ramsey County Library

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Ann Hagerman reads to Franny Boder.



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Filed Under: [Mounds View](#), [New Brighton](#), [Ramsey County Library](#)

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Published February 3, 2017 at 10:15 am

By Sarah Burghardt



An opening ceremony and ribbon cutting revealed the expanded Ramsey County Library to excited residents.



The Ramsey County Library held its grand opening celebration on Saturday, Jan. 28. Families were able to enjoy festivities all day and experience what their new expanded library has to offer. New amenities include artwork, a fireplace, over \$50,000 in new books and audio-visual materials, an enlarged children's area and much more. Ramsey County Library is located at 4570 North Victoria Street, Shoreview. (Sun Focus photos by Sarah Burghardt)

Filed Under: [Mounds View](#), [New Brighton](#), [Ramsey County Library](#)

NEWS

Hastings library set to get a remodel, possibly more space



Pleasant Hill Library in Hastings is set to get a makeover in 2017. (Courtesy of Dakota County)

By **NICK FERRARO** | nferraro@pioneerpress.com | Pioneer Press

February 7, 2017 at 10:44 pm

Pleasant Hill Library in Hastings is lined up to get remodeled as part of Dakota County's ongoing push to update its libraries.

The county's 2017 budget includes \$2.8 million for improvements to the Hastings library, which has not been renovated since it opened in 1994.

"For a number of years, Pleasant Hill was functioning at an adequate level and other needs at other branches became more pressing," said Margaret Stone, director of Dakota County Library, which operates nine libraries.

Now, county officials are focusing on getting Pleasant Hill up to speed with more modern amenities and possibly more space, Stone said.

"One of the challenges there is the use of space, and some of it is how much space is actually there," she said.

More private work areas for patrons, a larger meeting room for group events and more backroom space for staff are high priorities, she said.

"The small meeting room is by far the biggest issue," she said.

A consulting firm hired by the county recently completed a comprehensive needs assessment and submitted a space plan, three schematic designs and an estimated budget. The study will be the focus of an informational open house for residents from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the library, 1490 South Frontage Road.

Dakota County has recently been aggressively expanding and remodeling its libraries. Its long-range facilities plan recommends renovations on a 12- to 15-year cycle to adjust program space to meet changing needs.

Wescott Library in Eagan was renovated in 2009, followed by Burnhaven in Burnsville in 2010, Farmington Library in 2013 and Inver Glen in Inver Grove Heights in 2014.

Work on a \$5.4 million remodel of Galaxie Library in Apple Valley will start this fall and include a multipurpose lab at the building's entrance; a consolidated staff area with a relocated drive-up book drop; and an educational play area for children.

Originally built in 1990 as part of the county's Western Service Center, Galaxie Library underwent minor remodeling in 2004.

Meanwhile, a needs assessment for Heritage Library in Lakeville will be completed this year.

Two of the remodeling designs for Pleasant Hill include an addition to the building, Stone said.

"We need to have better work spaces for people who bring in their own devices," she said. "Our wireless use is growing through the roof."

A recommended remodeling option could go before the county board for approval in mid-March, she said.

When it comes to visitors, Pleasant Hill has the third-lowest gate count among the county's libraries. Last year, 143,000 people visited the library, which hosted nearly 300 programs.

By comparison, Galaxie, the county's busiest location, had a gate count of more than 312,000.

Because of its location, Pleasant Hill pulls in residents from rural townships south of Hastings as well as southern Washington County residents, Stone said.

Tags: Apple Valley Dakota County Eagan Farmington Hastings
Lakeville Rosemount

Nick
Ferraro

Nick Ferraro

A Minneapolis native, Nick Ferraro joined the Pioneer Press in 1997 after graduating from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. He's been a reporter covering Dakota County communities since 2007.

[Follow Nick Ferraro @NFerraroPiPress](#)



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By: Hollywoodreporter.com

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VIEW COMMENTS

Hennepin County Library posts messages that 'all are welcome here'

Hennepin director says libraries have a history of responding to events.

By Kelly Smith (<http://www.startribune.com/kelly-smith/101372379/>) Star Tribune

FEBRUARY 9, 2017 — 10:21PM

Minnesota's largest library system is spreading a message that all people — no matter their nationality, faith or other aspects of their background — are welcome.

The Hennepin County Library recently posted signs at all 41 of its libraries in Minneapolis and the west metro suburbs that read "All are welcome here," regardless of citizenship status, age, sexual orientation, race, housing status, gender identity and economic status, among other factors.

The signs are similar to buttons worn by library staffers and will be part of a social media campaign soon to be launched.

While the messages are part of the library's long-standing core mission, Library Director Lois Langer Thompson said, staffers wanted to do something more tangible to underscore that mission in response to current controversies over immigrants and refugees.

"Libraries have always been welcome places," she said. "No matter who you are, no matter your background ... everybody is welcome."

Other libraries across the country also are responding to national issues. An Iowa library is holding an [event on fake news](http://kwqc.com/2017/02/06/davenport-library-hosts-fake-news-discussion/) (<http://kwqc.com/2017/02/06/davenport-library-hosts-fake-news-discussion/>), while others have posted displays of books by refugees or about immigrants.

"We want to make sure we present all viewpoints," Thompson said. "We respond to what our community wants to learn about."

So far, she said, the messages have gotten a positive reaction from visitors. She added that the Hennepin County Library has a history of responding to crises, whether environmental or political, providing more for the community than just a place to pick up books.

Last year, the library responded to Black Lives Matter protests in the Twin Cities by launching a [Black Lives Matter teen reading list](http://www.startribune.com/libraries-across-the-country-look-to-hennepin-county-library-for-response-to-black-lives-matter/386882471/) (<http://www.startribune.com/libraries-across-the-country-look-to-hennepin-county-library-for-response-to-black-lives-matter/386882471/>), hoping that the power of books would help educate residents on racial issues.

After the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the library put together a reading list to help parents find a way to talk to children about that tragedy.

"We're not just here for a book to read; we're here to learn," Thompson said. "We're one of the cornerstones of democracy."

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(http://stmedia.startribune.com/images/ows_148667262377144.jpg)

Signs posted in the Hennepin County Library state that people are welcome there, no matter their

COMMENTS

bluedevel101

I've never thought that someone may not be welcome at the library. Why is this necessary other than PC of course.

northguy7

@bluedevel101 I think this is an attempt to remind people who may be wary of any government agency that libraries are there to provide information without judging or questioning.

David Gustafson

@bluedevel101 But other people have thought that, making statements of this sort necessary.

proute507

In front of the downtown Mpls Library they welcome smoking, littering, loitering and harassment of people coming/going thru the library entrance.

krump56

So the leadership at the County Library is taking a political position. Time for budget cuts.

packing

Except homeless people, they hire security to kick them out.

lubug2

@packing : Seriously? Libraries agonize over this all of the time. If homeless people smell terrible or act disturbingly enough that other people can't use the library then, yes. They probably need to leave. It would be nice if we adequately funded other places for them to go, wouldn't it?

bgovern

@packing If that is the case, they aren't doing a very good job of it.

northguy7

@packing They kick out people just because they are homeless?! I think not.

diditmyself1960

Libraries used to be an oasis of quiet in which to study, read and learn. Loud conversation and noise were not accepted.

Now, particularly at the Plymouth location, chaos and noise rules. Screaming and running children, loud cellphone conversations and people viewing porn on the computers is commonplace.

Perhaps we should get back to the core mission of libraries instead of spending money on signs stating the obvious. Ridiculous...

eagerowl

As an undocumented homeless gender-questioning trans-racial otherkin, I've never felt welcome in libraries until now.

carson256

@eagerow1 great comment. Unfortunately isn't that all too true, the PC crowd has struck again.

ballenc

@eagerow1 Kudos to you...one of the best comments EVER.

odinman

"Libraries have always been welcome places," she said. "No matter who you are, no matter your background ... everybody is welcome." ***** So why is the sign needed then?

lubug2

@odinman : As a reminder and a reaffirmation. Did you read the article?

odinman

@lubug2: I did read the article. I guess the library all of a sudden had the idea to post this unnecessary sign. I bet it didn't have anything at all to do with the election results.

jitterjepp

Were you hoping for a Trump ban based on religion at the library?

Report as inappropriate

Stillwater's library director, nearly a half-century on the job, to retire



Lynne Bertalmio, shown on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2017, is retiring after 42 years as director of the Stillwater Public Library. (Pioneer Press: Scott Takushi)

By **MARY DIVINE** | mdivine@pioneerpress.com | Pioneer Press

February 17, 2017 at 7:00 am

Lynne Bertalmio's first task as the new director of the Stillwater Public Library in 1974 was to persuade a number of women employees "who were in the second half of their 70s" to retire.

She was 23 years old.

"That was the first thing they wanted me to do, which is a lot for someone just starting out," Bertalmio said.

Once staffing issues were settled, Bertalmio, who had just received her master's degree in library science from the University of Minnesota, turned her time and attention to the collection of 40,024 books.

Many of the materials on the shelves "were outdated and had misinformation, so that needed a lot of work," she said.

Bertalmio, thought to be one of the longest-serving Minnesota library directors to have stayed at one location, soon will let someone else take responsibility for the library's 78,140 books, e-books, e-audio and e-magazines; 10,800 audio-visual items; and online databases. She retires Feb. 28.

"We're not about books, we're not about e-books; we're about content," Bertalmio said. "Content can come in a lot of different forms, but what's important is that people get access to as much content as they can possibly stand. As long as people need content and people need to share content so they can afford content, there's a role for libraries."

During her 42 years at the helm, Bertalmio helped transform the library at 224 N. Third St. She oversaw a significant physical reorganization of the library in 1985 and an \$11.5 million renovation and expansion in 2005-2006. When the library reopened in September 2006, it had an addition that more than tripled its space to 40,000 square feet and included parking, a roof terrace and meeting rooms.

That renovation means Bertalmio isn't cleaning out four decades' worth of "stuff" from her office, she said. "It's a lot, but it's not 42 years of cleaning up."

Bertalmio's longevity and institutional memory have been invaluable, said Mike Keliher, president of the library board.



Lynne Bertalmio, shown on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2017, is retiring after 42 years as director of the Stillwater Public Library. (Pioneer Press: Scott Takushi)

“She knows everybody in town, and everybody knows her,” Keliher said. “She knows how the last several years of budget presentations to the city council have gone. She knows what the fundraising efforts have been like for recent projects. She’s seen and done everything.”

STARTING SALARY: \$8,000

Bertalmio, 66, who majored in French at Carleton College in Northfield, Minn., was the first library director in Stillwater with professional training. Her starting salary was \$8,000 a year — a \$1,500-a-year raise over the previous director's, she said.

"They knew that they weren't paying enough to get someone with lots of experience or maybe even any experience," she [told the Pioneer Press](#) in 2014.

Bertalmio grew up in Elmhurst, Ill., a suburb of Chicago, where she developed a love of reading thanks to "Nancy Drew" mysteries.

"Those are the first books I can really remember reading in a sustained fashion, and I still like mysteries," she said. "I read them all, not necessarily in order. It would depend on when I could find them. They were like potato chips."

She mostly reads mysteries and literary fiction set during or right after World War I. She is now reading "Midnight's Children" by Salman Rushdie and "Death of Kings" by Rennie Airth. Her favorite book of the past 12 months: "To the Bright Edge of the World," by Eowyn Ivey.

But her favorite book is Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice," which she has read so many times she has lost count.

"Everybody says, 'Oh, a love story.' No. It's as much about money as it is about love, and I think that that's part of the reason I like it," she said. "One of the things I learned from it is that you could be very funny about fairly serious subjects."

WHAT SHE'S READING

In 2015, Bertalmio found online a list of 100 books to read titled "[The Best of British Literature](#)."

"I should have my head examined, but you have to pick what you're going to read next one way or another," she said, pulling several wrinkled sheets of paper out of a book bag from beneath her office desk. "You can tell it's a well-loved list. It was compiled by book critics outside the U.K."

Bertalmio had already read the top 12 books on the list — "Middlemarch" by George Eliot was No. 1 — so she started with No. 13, "The Good Soldier," by Ford Madox Ford.

"I had to get that one; it was interesting," she said. "I hadn't read No. 16, and I still haven't read No. 16. That's Virginia Woolf's 'The Waves.' It's a little different structure for her, so I'm not sure when I'll read that. And I've never been able to read Doris Lessing, so I don't know what I'm going to do, but leave that till the end, maybe."

Reading fiction is especially important in today's world, Bertalmio contends.



Lynne Bertalmio, center, chats with Mike Prince, left, of Seattle and his mother, Nancy Prince of Stillwater, who holds granddaughter Charlotte, at the Stillwater Public Library on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2017. Bertalmio is retiring after 42 years as director of the Stillwater Public Library. (Pioneer Press: Scott Takushi)

"Whether you are reading it in an e-book, or you're reading it in a hardbound book, or you're listening to it, fiction is what teaches us how to understand the world," she said. "People don't come with topic sentences and indexes, so you have to learn to recognize what people are like and what people value ... and fiction is a good way to prepare for that."

Bertalmio lives in the Dutchtown neighborhood of Stillwater with her husband, acclaimed equine artist William Ersland.

After she retires, the couple will travel to Cheyenne, Wyo., for an art show and then head to Sante Fe, N.M., she said.

"First and foremost, and most immediately, I hope to be out of the state of Minnesota for most of March because that's when everything melts, so I do hope to be someplace drier," she said.

"After that, I'm going to take some time to listen to my internal voices, because I haven't had time to listen to them in quite some time — in too long," she said.

Also joining Bertalmio in retirement is assistant director Carolyn Blocher, who had been with the library for 19 years. Her last day was Feb. 7.

Melissa Brechon, a longtime library director who recently retired, has been tapped as the library's interim director. Brechon previously was the director of the Austin, Minn., Public Library, director of the Carver County Library system and interim director of the Metropolitan Library Service Agency. She started Feb. 1.

The library board plans to hire an executive search firm to help find a permanent director; a new director should be on the job by July 1, Keliher said.

FYI

People who would like to honor Stillwater Public Library Director Lynne Bertalmio may leave a message for her in a book on display at the library. The Stillwater City Council will recognize Bertalmio's 42 years of service to the community when it meets Feb. 21.

Tags: Books Stillwater Washington County



Mary Divine

Mary Divine is a reporter for the St. Paul Pioneer Press. She covers Washington County and the St. Croix River Valley, but has also spent time covering the state Capitol. She has won numerous journalism awards, including the Premack Award and the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists' Page One Award. Prior to joining the Pioneer Press in 1998, she worked for the Rochester, Minn., Post-Bulletin and at the St. Joseph, Mo., News-Press. Her work has also appeared in a number of magazines, including Mpls/St. Paul Magazine, Twin Cities Business Monthly and Minnesota Magazine. She is a graduate of Carleton College and lives in St. Paul with her husband, Greg Myers, and their three children, Henry, 15, Frances, 13, and Fred, 10.

[Follow Mary Divine @MaryEDivine](#)



WWE Star Nicole Bass Dead At 52

By: Extratv.com

ST. PAUL

Twin Cities libraries hesitate to lend internet hot spots

Take-home internet has extra costs, wait times.

By David Peterson (<http://www.startribune.com/david-peterson/10645651/>) Star Tribune

FEBRUARY 19, 2017 — 1:38PM

Tanisha Santiago says the injury to her writing arm in a car accident on Christmas Day threatened to cause her to “fail all my classes.”

What saved the Gordon Parks High School senior was a small device she didn’t even know existed. Thanks to the St. Paul libraries, she took home for free a powerful little gadget that let her do schoolwork online, even though her family lacks Wi-Fi.

Ads by ZINC

Santiago benefited from a leap that is being made by libraries across the country: lending portable hot spots to library patrons so those without Wi-Fi can go online from home for weeks or months at a time.

The metro area so far appears slow to embrace a trend described as “huge” by the president of the American Library Association (ALA). The firm recommended by the ALA as a source of steeply discounted portable hot spots to libraries reports that about 360 systems across the country have taken up its offer, but only one in Minnesota.

And that one, the St. Paul Public Library, is warning it may have to withdraw its units unless it can find a sustainable funding source.

Debate over whether to offer hot spots is part of the larger challenge faced by libraries to keep up with a changing digital landscape. Minnesota libraries in the past decade have roughly doubled their number of in-house computers, adding thousands. But as more and more patrons bring their own tablets and laptops to the library for in-house Wi-Fi, use of desktop computers has dropped by millions of sessions a year.

A mobile hot spot is a gadget about the size of human hand that can connect 15 nearby devices to the internet, pulling signals from cell towers to avoid the need for wiring.

At a time when some library systems are seeing a decline in conventional services, libraries that do offer hot spots say they are the hottest item they lend. Those libraries still on the sidelines, however, say they are leery for a number of reasons.

First, library patrons commonly endure long waits for the units. With 130 units available through the St. Paul libraries, holds can last months even though most units



(http://stmedia.startribune.com/images/1487458802_10017141+1hotspot021917.JPG)
DAVID PETERSON, STAR TRIBUNE

Bob Andresen, a tech staffer at Gordon Parks High School in St. Paul, an alternative school in the inner city, said that few students need

can be retained for only a week.

And then there's the issue of finding a reliable funding source to buy them. Many systems offering hot spots get grants to do so, but librarians worry about being forced to yank the popular option for lack of funding after users get accustomed to it.

The need is undeniable: Librarians can see it as they open for the day and lock up at night.

"Before our branches open, in warm weather you see people leaning up against the building with their device, logging in," said Dakota County's chief librarian, Margaret Stone. In St. Paul, librarian Rebecca Ryan has seen people sitting on steps outside a library with a laptop.

Across the nation, ALA President Julie Todaro said, programs to lend portable hot spots to bring the internet to low-income households are becoming hugely popular. "In Brooklyn, in Atlanta, in Kansas City, libraries are stepping in — many, many are going in that direction," she said.

Portable — but pricey

Librarians stress that the whole world of information and connection is switching online. Sixty percent of the reference books you used to see in libraries are gone, Todaro said; they are available online only. The paper tax forms that libraries used to dispense are gone too, said Phoebe Larson of the St. Paul system. People now file mostly online.

"We'll send you to the IRS for them if you want paper these days," she said.

Seattle Public Library officials weren't sure there would be much demand when they began lending hot spots, but within hours "there were hundreds and hundreds of holds on them," said spokeswoman Andra Addison. The system now offers 825 units, and still the waits can last weeks, she said.

A Twin Cities librarian gasped when told that, based on the online catalog for the Denver Public Library, it looked like 634 patrons were waiting recently for 36 units.

Long waits were the main reason mentioned by Johannah Genett, a division manager for the Hennepin County Library, to explain why the Hennepin system is hesitant about hot spot lending. Hennepin, while upgrading broadband speeds in library buildings, is more inclined to work with partners such as school districts furnishing hot spots to low-income students.

Library systems such as St. Paul's often get outside grants for special services but run into trouble when the grants vaporize. "It's very difficult to take away a library service" once patrons have grown accustomed to it, Stone said.

Conversely, the ALA notes that libraries can find much cheaper hot spot alternatives than the average person would get on the open market. The association points its members to a firm called Mobile Beacon, which provides nonprofits with \$10 a month unlimited data plans; commercial providers charge \$50 or more a month.

The units themselves can cost libraries as little as \$18 upfront, said Mobile Beacon spokeswoman Lauren Yergeau.

Minnesota has been willing to subsidize the digital divide in the state's rural areas. The Legislature last year set aside \$35 million for grants to bring digital service to unserved or underserved areas of the state. A sliver of that, about \$171,000, landed in the upscale Hennepin County suburb of Medina, where incomes tower over those of Edina but large estates can make connectivity pricey.

For libraries, targeting hot spots to disadvantaged patrons vs. general library patrons is another issue. St. Paul performs the delicate dance by offering hot spots only at inner-city branches, but then not denying them to anyone.

The prospect of St. Paul residents continuing to borrow hot spots has improved just in the past few weeks. Funds have been found to allow the library to offer hot spots for the rest of the school year for sure, and perhaps through the end of 2017.

"We realize it's such a popular program. Patrons love it. ... We'll work on more sustainable funding," Larson said.

And to people who take Wi-Fi for granted, said Santiago, just try living without easy access.

"A lot of jobs these days don't even have paper applications," she said. "They tell you to apply online."

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http://www.presspubs.com/shoreview/news/article_d80d9b3e-f855-11e6-aaaa-b35be9c8c88e.html

Beloved oaks make a comeback at library

Meet the artisans behind the laptop bar

By Sara Marie Moore/Editor Feb 21, 2017 Updated Feb 21, 2017



Sara Marie Moore | Press Publications

The laptop bar in Shoreview's new library that opened last month was made out of oaks that were cut down at the site.

SHOREVIEW — Repurposing trees is nothing new for the craftsmen at Forest Products Supply who created the oak laptop bar for the new Ramsey County Library.

The project was about a year in the making, said White Bear Township resident Conrad Solberg, who owns the Maplewood business with his son Mike Mueller, of Woodbury.

Solberg first visited the site to examine the oak trees that had been felled to build the library. He picked the ones he thought would be good for creating a piece of art and had them dried and cut into slabs in Hugo. They were then kiln-dried for three months in Milaca.

The wood was then sanded and crafted at the shop in Maplewood. Woodworker Richard Wanket, of Arden Hills, fabricated the table. He worked on the project for about three weeks, he said. He visited the library with his grandson on opening day.

The 50-foot bench and table is made of 8-foot sections, Solberg said. Several slabs cut and glued together make up the width of the table. A company in Forest Lake did the stain and varnish finishing.

Forest Products Supply worked with the library's architect, HGA Architects, to create the piece, said Maplewood Library Manager Bill Michael, who served as the project manager for the Shoreview Library project.

Adolfson and Peterson Construction, the contractor that constructed the library, installed the piece. They put metal legs on it and an electrician wired the entire length with laptop plugins.

Solberg took about 30 trees from the site for the laptop bar but said he still has several left in his pole barn.

The idea to use oak trees that had been on the site in the new building came from a library board member, Michael said. Community members had expressed grief at losing the oak trees on the site planned for the new library.

Many of the trees were "very mature" and "beyond their healthy life" and would have needed to be taken down eventually, Michael said. But the library wanted to honor the community's love of trees with a lasting reminder.

"It was a nice way for us to respond to the community's desire to save the trees," Michael said.

Recycling trees is nothing new for Forest Products Supply. Workers there often use diseased wood to make tables and other items. Trees that have emerald ash borer, Dutch elm disease or oak wilt can be repurposed, he said.

"The wood is fine," he said. "It's going to last forever. It's a good way to recycle trees that die."

Forest Products Supply makes tables, cabinets and staircases as well as many other items.

"Everything we do here is custom," Solberg said. The business has over 100 species of wood on hand from as far away as South America and Australia.

Crafting a sanctuary

Forest Products Supply has also undertaken several custom church projects in the northeast metro.

In 2001, the company made a complete altar set for South Shore Trinity Lutheran Church in White Bear Lake. Longtime church member Ken Kirchhoff, a retired 3M designer and woodworking hobbyist, designed an altar, pulpit, cross, communion rail, baptismal font and bell tables. He gave the drawings to Forest Products Supply and specified they be made out of oak.

Redeemer Lutheran Church in White Bear Lake commissioned Forest Products Supply to make an oak altar, lectern, cross and rising sun design behind the cross in 2002, said longtime church member Gene Gere.

In 2003, White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church in Mahtomedi had Forest Products Supply use oak trees that had been on the site of its new sanctuary to craft paneling for a wall in its atrium. The top of the pulpit where Rev. Victoria Safford stands each week was also made from an oak tree that stood at that very spot.

“There was a lot of dismay around having to take down healthy oak trees,” Safford remembered. “The woodland has been cherished by the congregation.”

In 2012, St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi had a nearly 2,000-pound, 15-foot tall suspended cross put in its sanctuary that was crafted by Forest Products Supply. The church sanctuary had originally been built without a cross; a large organ fills the front of the sanctuary.

“The challenge to us was to design something that was permanent that looked like it belonged there and wasn’t added,” said member Peter Nasvik, chair of the cross committee. Nasvik, a retired designer, had two wood pieces crafted by Forest Products Supply and took them back to his own shop to design the associated lighting and hardware to hang it.

Solberg said his company also made religious furniture for St. Jude of the Lake Church in Mahtomedi.

Solberg and Mueller bought Forest Products Supply in 1999. The company has operated since 1972. Forest Products Supply is located at 2650 Highway 61. For more information, visit forestproductssupply.com.



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Senator Chuck Wiger: Libraries Matter

*"The only thing that you absolutely have to know is the location of the library."-
Albert Einstein*

Libraries are a vital part of our community.

As you know, libraries have expanded beyond their original mission of lending books to patrons. Our libraries now have available:

- DVDs, CDs and audio books
- Computers and printers
- Genealogy research opportunities (trace your family tree)
- Wifi access
- Scores of magazines and newspapers
- Children's play area with books, toys and puppets
- Story time for kids
- Meeting rooms
- Book clubs
- Local art

I am always impressed at the number of people who are in my local library taking advantage of this wonderful community asset.

Librarians are extraordinarily helpful. They help you connect with:


- child care resources
- job placement opportunities
- income tax advice
- University of Minnesota extension courses
- College searches

Libraries also can build capacity for local businesses. They contain important information for employers, job seekers and consumers. They also play a crucial "think tank" role for local start-up businesses and community development advocates.

For consumers, they provide up-to-date information about the best businesses to patronize in the area.



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The library buildings themselves are wonderful places. Modern and airy, they are comfortable places to spend time. Many are also surrounded by attractive trails for exercise and contemplation.

The Twin Cities seven-county metro area is lucky to be home to more than 100 public libraries that work together to bring the best library services and programs to you. Below is a listing of our local libraries:

- Ramsey County Library (RCL) – White Bear Lake; 4698 Clark Avenue. <http://www.rclreads.org/about/locations/rcl-white-bear-lake>
- RCL – Maplewood; 3025 Southlawn Drive.

<http://www.rclreads.org/about/locations/rcl-maplewood>

- Oakdale Library; 1010 Heron Avenue North. <http://www.co.washington.mn.us/Facilities/Facility/Details/3>
- RCL – North St. Paul; 2300 North St. Paul Drive. <http://www.rclreads.org/about/locations/rcl-north-st-paul>
- Wildwood Branch – Wildwood Branch, 763 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi

<https://www.washcolib.org/facilities/Facility/Details/Wildwood-Branch-11>

Your library card is a passport to a host of other reference and research opportunities, including the James J. Hill Reference Library in downtown St. Paul.

In addition to our wonderful librarians and media specialists, also thank the members of the citizen boards that advise the libraries. These folks continue to give selflessly of their time and talent.

As always, please contact me with questions or suggestions regarding any issue. I encourage you to visit me at the Minnesota Senate Building, Room 2219. And be sure to visit our newly-restored Capitol. It is spectacular! Let me know if you would like me to stop by your home or apartment. I can be reached by email at sen.chuck.wiger@senate.mn, and by phone at 651-296-6820, or 651-770-0283.

Senator Chuck Wiger



Chuck Wiger represents District 43, which includes portions of Ramsey and Washington counties in the northeastern Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Read more news from Sen. Wiger.



Jeffco library scrubs tweets after getting complaints that posts are politically biased

Library director says tweets didn't represent a politically balanced view

JeffcoLibrary @JCPD Feb 1
Facts are facts. Find accurate, up-to-date ones about current events using our awesome databases: bit.ly/2jwBtVT



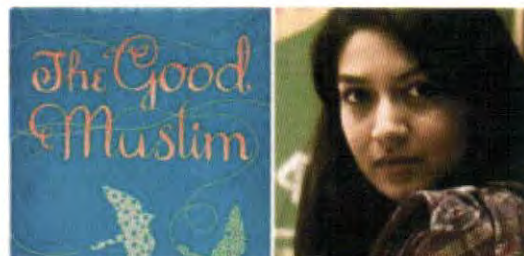
JeffcoLibrary @JCPD Jan 23
Want more information on women's healthcare reform? Here's 9 books that will take you beyond the headlines: bit.ly/2iY51LX



JeffcoLibrary @JCPD Jan 11
We believe in #science too! That's why we're partnering with @coschoolofmines for a Girls in STEM Competition: bit.ly/2iXp4sO



JeffcoLibrary @JCPD Feb 1
Whether secular or religious, these 14 novels about Muslim life shouldn't be missed:



14 Novels About Muslim Life That Shouldn't Be Missed
Whether secular or religious, these authors open up worlds for their audiences.
buzzfeed.com

Some of the tweets deleted from the Jeffco Library Twitter account.

Twitter screenshots

By **JOHN AGUILAR** | jaguilar@denverpost.com | The Denver Post

PUBLISHED: February 23, 2017 at 5:15 am | UPDATED: February 23, 2017 at 6:49 am

The head of the Jefferson County Public Library this month deleted a series of tweets from the library's Twitter account after a county commissioner complained they were politically biased.

That has people in the county talking about the role of libraries as repositories of free expression and the unfettered exchange of ideas — and whether that mission could be jeopardized by the specter of online censorship.

The offending tweets, which were mostly posted in January, included a message promoting the library's databases titled "Facts are facts"; a picture of Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton behind the phrase "I Believe in Science!" posted on Inauguration Day; links to information about refugees featuring women in Muslim dress; and images of birth control methods linking to information on "women's health care reform."

Commissioner Don Rosier, who received a complaint about the tweets from a Jefferson County resident, said he was "shocked and appalled" by the postings, which he said supported a "one-sided political view."

His postings "give the impression of bias and opposition to our county and the nation's leadership," Rosier wrote in an e-mail to the library's executive director, Pam Nissler, earlier this month.

Rosier described himself as a "social conservative" on a Facebook page he launched for an unsuccessful U.S. Senate run last year.

"The library's social media activities are still an issue with me and others," Rosier wrote in an e-mail to *The Denver Post*, although he didn't elaborate on what those ongoing issues are when asked several times this week.

Nissler said at first she was "concerned and puzzled" about the commissioner's complaint but later concluded that the tweets could be perceived as having a bias, especially if a viewer were to primarily focus on the photos in the postings.

The tweets included pictures of celebrities Madonna and Meryl Streep, both of whom publicly criticized President Donald Trump before and after he took office. They also featured a picture of former President Barack Obama and his daughters with a link to titles in a father/daughter book club. The tweet was published the same day Trump took the oath of office.

"I can see where the perception that these were politically slanted can be drawn," Nissler said.

In an e-mail to *The Post* this week, Nissler said it is the "library's obligation to provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues, and to be a neutral, reliable source."

"That is foundational to our mission and it is not an obligation that we take lightly," Nissler wrote. "We would never want to be perceived as taking sides, or promoting a particular point of view. In this case, I felt that our postings created the perception of bias and I removed them."

She said Rosier didn't order her to remove the tweets and said neither her job nor the library's \$39 million budget was threatened by county leaders.

James LaRue, director of the Chicago-based American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom, said he wouldn't have deleted the tweets.

"I think she would have been right to leave them there," he said. "I did not find anything objectionable to them — there is nothing there but information pointing to library resources."

LaRue, who served 24 years as head of Douglas County Libraries, said the tweets were not partisan in nature but messages focused on topics of the day, albeit topics — Russia, immigration, health, accuracy in reporting — that have generated heated discussion of late. He pointed to one tweet in particular showing a picture of Russian leader Vladimir Putin with the question: "Want to know more about what's going on with Russia?"

"That's quite a jump," he said of the claim that the tweet is an example of political bias.

LaRue said he hadn't heard of libraries in the U.S. removing tweets they posted and said it will be something his office will be keeping an eye on, given libraries' central role as a bulwark against censorship. While he said he didn't believe Nissler, who once worked for him, "caved" on the issue by removing the tweets, he called the situation "problematic."

"Censorship has to be resisted," he said.

Nissler said she expects to be criticized for her decision to take down the tweets but said she had to make a judgement call. In hindsight, she said, "it might not have been a bad idea" to more closely examine each tweet to see if some met the test of impartiality and deserved to remain on the library's Twitter feed.

The staffer who posted the tweets had been counseled to be more politically balanced when using the library's social media accounts, but "has not been instructed to stay away from topical or political issues," she said.

As of the end of last year, Jefferson County Public Library had more than 360,000 cardholders.

Brian DeLaet, chairman of the library's board of trustees, could not be reached for comment Wednesday. Trustee John Bodnar said he didn't see the issue of the scrapped tweets as censorship, but more as the library's director "erring on the side of caution."

"The library is an area for dissemination of that information — not for initiation of that information," he said.

Twitter has been at the center of a number of recent free-speech controversies and the incident at Jefferson County Public Library is not the first time a public agency has found itself in the cross hairs for its posts.

In January, the U.S. Department of the Interior placed a temporary freeze on tweeting from its official accounts after an employee retweeted a pair of posts that appeared to take a jab at Trump on his first day in office. Last week, the Jefferson Middle School Academy in Washington, D.C., fired off a string of tweets defending the school from critical comments made by new U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos after a visit.

But Jefferson County resident Arist Athanasopoulos said the library is supposed to be an impartial source of information for people of all political stripes. The conservative Republican said he was bothered that no one in the library system noticed the tone of the tweets and that it took a private citizen to bring it to the county's attention.

In an e-mail he sent to the commissioners earlier this month, Athanasopoulos said "partisan politics have no place in a PUBLIC library."

"Keeping the community informed about hours, services, special programs or other events are appropriate uses for taxpayer dollars and should be the library's mission on Twitter," he said.

He wrote that tweets about refugees are not appropriate because the term is often used as a "euphemism to describe individuals who are in this country illegally."

"Where are tweets on the other viewpoint on immigration?" he wrote.

Tweets highlighting the "facts are facts" theme are "directly pointed at our current presidential administration," he said, despite the fact that one of Trump's closest advisers pushed the much-criticized idea of using "alternative facts" to counter evidence that points the opposite direction.

He also characterized the messages the library posted about women's health care reform as "politically motivated" and a "political statement about abortion."

Jefferson County commissioner Casey Tighe said his reading of the deleted tweets was that they didn't represent a good balance of political viewpoints and that it was right for the library to "recalibrate" its Twitter feed. But he defended the library as a place to "engage the public in discussion" and doesn't want to see it shy away from thorny issues because of this.

"It's a difficult balancing act," Tighe said. "But I don't want to see the library go into a shell."

TAGS: **JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY,** **SOCIAL MEDIA,** **TWITTER**



John Aguilar

Originally from Boston, John Aguilar covers Denver's suburbs for The Denver Post, where he has worked since April 2014. He has also worked at the Boulder County Business Report, the Rocky Mountain News and the Boulder Daily Camera.

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MINNEAPOLIS

Power failure closes Central Library in downtown Minneapolis

There was no immediate explanation for the outage.

By Paul Walsh (<http://www.startribune.com/paul-walsh/10646171/>) Star Tribune

MARCH 5, 2017 — 12:36PM

A power failure Sunday has shut down the Minneapolis Central Library for the day, officials said.

The electrical outage struck shortly after 7 a.m. and was reported later in the morning by Hennepin County Library officials on their website and Facebook.

Normal business hours for the downtown location on Sundays are noon to 5 p.m.

Repairs were underway and the library was "expected to open tomorrow morning, so we should be good," county spokeswoman Carolyn Marinan said.

The failure "impacted several systems," Marinan said, "including air circulation in the entire building along with the system that deals with fume exhaust in the parking garage, and the ability to properly heat the building."

She said workers are replacing equipment that runs those systems and troubleshooting to learn what caused the failure.

A spokeswoman for Xcel Energy said the utility has detected no other downtown locations experiencing trouble with electricity supply, but an Xcel crew was dispatched to the library to assist with repairs and diagnosis.

The library this weekend has been hosting Geo: Code 2017, a two-day public conference designed to teach participants about government data and technology.

Conference officials said they would be wrapping up Sunday's session by 1 p.m. because of the power failure.

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(http://stmedia.startribune.com/images/ctyp_6589013Minneapolis_Central_Library_or_Payton_Chung_thumb)
STAR TRIBUNE FILE

Central Library, downtown Minneapolis