

The Northbrook Public

LIBRARY

CAR-RT-SORT
Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Northbrook IL
Permit No. 689

1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook IL

Sept., Oct., Nov., 1985

POSTAL CUSTOMER
Northbrook IL 60062



Frances Bradbury

*The Northbrook Public Library
Board of Directors
cordially invites members and friends of the community
to an
Open House
honoring retiring Executive Librarian
Frances Bradbury*

1:30 to 4:30pm
Sunday, September 8
Northbrook Public Library
1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, Illinois

✻

Ten years of remarkable Northbrook Public Library growth

Before March 1 of 1976, when Frances Bradbury (a Northbrook librarian since 1968) was promoted to Executive Librarian, Northbrook had a good library.

Now, after nearly 10 years of progress under her direction, the Northbrook Public Library has become one of the finest in the North Suburban Library System.

As Mrs. Bradbury retires, we can look back at major technological advances as well as improvements resulting from careful planning toward specific goals.

Adult services improved

During her first year, Frances Bradbury established a rental library of best sellers in addition to those added to the regular collection — an innovation immediately popular with patrons wanting to avoid waiting lists.

She began this newsletter, the library's first direct line of communication with its patrons.

Other improvements followed rapidly. Fiction, reference, research, periodical, art, music, advisory, and outreach services were reorganized. A paperback collection was added.

A quiet reading room containing an extensive business collection was set up. Standard and Poor's Stock Report Service, Moody's International Manual, and The Magazine Index (the last covering five years of magazines and updated every month) appeared in 1982.

Special services for patrons with hearing impairment were added, followed by a collection of large-type books (now numbering 3,000) and Talking Books. Books-on-Wheels began distributing more library materials, including films and projection equipment, to shut-ins and nursing homes.

In 1979 improvements were made in the library's Listening Centers, and affiliation with Suburban Audio-Visual Service brought Northbrook patrons 16mm sound movies for home use. In 1981 the library added video cassettes for both VHS and Beta home systems.

Milestone observed

Having more than come of age, the library enthusiastically celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1978 with a gala party hosted by the Friends of the Library, followed by an entire week of film classics, music, and other special events.

Hi-tech equipment installed

In 1978 the electromagnetic theft detector was installed. Because it did away with pilfering, the equipment more than paid for itself within the first year.

Interlibrary loan service and reciprocal borrowing, computerized in 1981, enabled patrons to locate and borrow materials from all 43 libraries in the North Suburban Library System. Materials of 22 north and northwest public libraries are now included on one computer database, making the Northbrook library the equivalent of 22.

(Continued on page 3)

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