



120 YEAR HISTORY OF
THE HANCOCK COUNTY
Public Library

DEDICATION

This history is dedicated to the library staff, volunteers, and the community of Hancock County, Indiana. Without you, this history would not exist.

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A NOTE FROM THE

County Historian

It all began in 1878 when W.H. Simms, Superintendent of Schools decided the community needed a library. The purpose of this small volume is to celebrate and commemorate the many hard working volunteers, donors, and staff that have made what we have today possible. I am honored to have had the opportunity of working with Paul McNeal to make this written history reality. Our Hancock County Public Library is truly an outstanding community asset which should make us all proud and we should celebrate it.

Historians know that any new discovery about the “good old days” changes how we think about the present and our expectations for the future. In addition, every change in current affairs and in the expectations of the future revises our perception of the past. Thus, history as modern society knows it is born.

History is a reflection on the past that can never be isolated from current happenings and the future. One historian tells that history deals with human life as it flows through time. In addition, history is not only what happened in the past, but it is also the act of selecting, analyzing, and writing about the past and its institutions.

Over the past years, historians have argued over the influence of one “great man” shaping a period of history. Nineteenth century romantic philosopher Thomas Carlyle wrote, “The history of what man accomplished in this world is at the bottom of the history of the Great Men who worked here.” Others believe leaders do not make history, but are products of the times and a reflection or spiritual material that call them forth during perilous times and evoke great leaders. In building the Hancock County Library as it is today, we have been blessed with many volunteers, staff and donors who have made this all possible. Thank you, this is your history. Good job!

Joseph L. Skvarenina
Hancock County Historian
Greenfield, Indiana
June, 2017

A HISTORY OF THE HANCOCK COUNTY Public Library

In 1878, W.H. Simms, superintendent of the city schools, organized a library. In the spring of 1879, Greenfield students began going door to door to ask for spare books, because the high school needed a library. On November 24, 1879, an association was formed. The following individuals were the group's officers: George S. Wilson, president; Miss Crissie Gilchrist, vice president; Miss Jessie Randall, secretary; Josie B. Tague, treasurer; Thomas H. Mitchell, corresponding secretary; and Eddie Thayer, Lenna Gwinn, and William Atherton, executive committee. The purpose of the association was to procure means to enlarge the high school which had just been started. At that time, the high school was located at the West Building.

When the high school moved to the new building on North and Pennsylvania Streets in 1895, a room was dedicated for a library. The room was located on the first floor just north of the hall. On November 5, 1897, a meeting of the citizens of Greenfield was held at the building for the purpose of considering ways to establish a public library. A large number of people were in attendance. E.E. Stoner was elected president of the meeting and Dr. Charles K. Bruner, secretary. Stoner appointed twelve citizens to solicit funds in the amount of \$1,000. This would become Greenfield's first public library. Local civic leaders Matilda and Ephraim Marsh, along with Lee O. Harris, Charles Bruner, William R. Hough, Mrs. Blanche McNew, and Mrs. George W. Duncan, were put on the committee to select books for the library. Mr. Marsh was Co-Chairman for the committee to elect Grover Cleveland and Thomas Hendricks (of Shelbyville, Indiana) to the White House. Mr. Marsh was also involved with the Greenfield Banking Company. The Marsh family had one of the first telephone lines in Greenfield. Charles Keepers



The original Greenfield Public Library was housed in the Greenfield High School (later the Riley Elementary School) from 1898 until the Carnegie library was finished in 1909. The arch of the front entrance is all that remains of the building after a fire destroyed it in 1985. The 110 West North Street site is now the location of the Greenfield-Central Schools administration building.

Image courtesy of the Indiana Historical Society, P0003.

County, was a charter member of the Greenfield Library Board, and also served on the Board of Pension Examiners for the Civil War. His wife, Mary Binford Bruner, was the first woman to practice medicine in Hancock County. The Greenfield Public Library was officially organized in 1898. On January 5, 1898, the doors were thrown open to the public. The school commissioners had placed 1500 volumes on the shelves. Ten magazines were placed on the reading table to be used by the patrons while in the room but were not to be circulated. The first librarian was Minnie Hughes. She served for three years. During the last year of her tenure, an assistant was appointed, Miss Manie Handy. Mrs. Hughes resigned March 1, 1901, and Miss Handy was appointed librarian. In the early years, the library fund was \$1,000 per year and about 400 books were added annually. The number of volumes on the shelves and in circulation was 3,000 along with 24 of the best magazines. The magazines of the past six years were bound and placed on the shelves and circulated.



Another interior shot of the Carnegie reading room. Here one can see a better view of the partner desk.

Image courtesy of the Indiana State Library, Library Development Office.

The average number of volumes loaned each day was 50 and the number used in the reading room was 75. The school board members at the time were: Mr. J.W. Harrell, president; Mr. J.S. Jackson, secretary; and Mr. George Cooper, treasurer.

In 1906, the high school building was becoming so significantly crowded that the library space was turned into a classroom. Due to lack of space, the city made plans to construct a separate building. The city high school remained at that location until 1926 when it transitioned to the Riley Elementary School. The building burned to the ground on the night of April 30, 1985. The front arch of the school is all that remains today, and the site is now home to the Greenfield-Central Schools administration building.

When library officials began looking for a new location in 1906, Kate Poulson was serving as head librarian and Vernie Baldwin was serving as assistant to the librarian. Baldwin worked with the school board, consisting of Samuel D. Offutt, George H. Cooper, and J. W. Harrell, to obtain a new building. Resident Malissa Cooper owned a lot on west North Street, which she donated to be used for the library's new site. The Cooper homestead had been at the site. Malissa Hoel Cooper was the widow of Dr. Berry Willis Cooper. She was a member of the Greenfield Christian Church and actively participated in Greenfield's first reading circle. When she died in 1913, her obituary read that she did not need a large marker for her gravestone but rather pointed to the library and stated, "There is my monument."

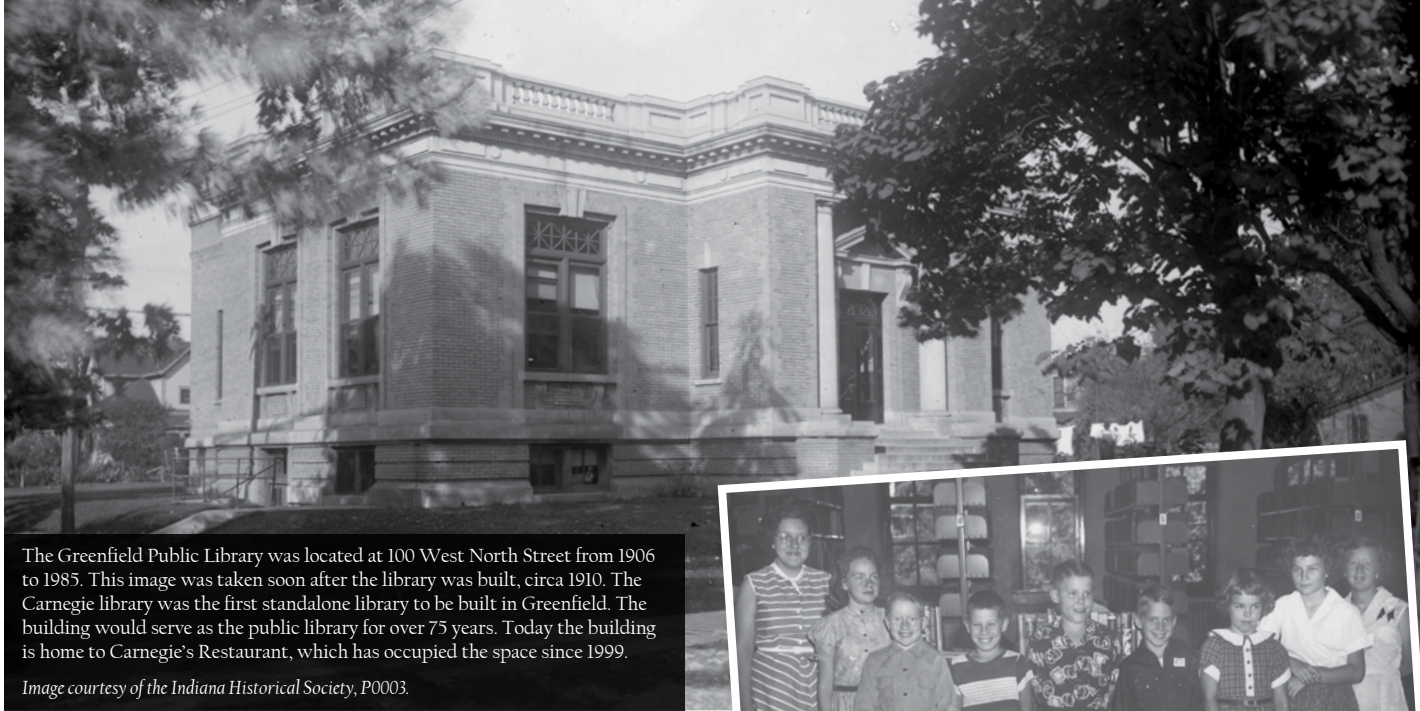
Baldwin corresponded with industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, who helped many communities build libraries. Carnegie donated \$10,000 to build a library in Greenfield. The building was constructed from 1908 to 1909. The exterior was made of Bedford limestone and mottled brick. The total cost was \$12,500. The staff and collection moved into the Carnegie Building in October 1909. A tablet inside the building entrance read, "Andrew Carnegie gave ten thousand

An interior shot of the Carnegie library's reading room during its early years. Note in the far back left of the room is what is known as the "partner desk" and throughout the reading area are stick style chairs. One can still find the desk and six of these chairs in the local history room of the library.

Image courtesy of the Indiana State Library, Library Development Office.



dollars to erect this building. The ground was donated as a memorial to Mrs. Malissa Cooper." The lower hall was called Harris Hall, in honor of Lee O. Harris. A large portrait of Harris was hung in the hall. The City Federation of Clubs used this room for meetings. Throughout the years, patrons donated items to the library. One such item was a painting by the Greenfield born artist, Richard Brown Black, titled, "Street Scene in Algiers." The painting had been exhibited in Paris and later at the Herron Art Institute. It was donated to the library by future board member Lizzie Harris in 1915. The painting still hangs in the library today. The school board operated the library until May 1917, when it officially became the "Greenfield and Center Township Library." Vernie Baldwin became the director in August 1918. She served as head librarian for the next 40 years. Vernie and her three sisters, Margaret, Nellie, and Ethel, lived at 210 West North Street. In the 1930s, they were known as the "brain trust" of Greenfield. Vernie had every woman in town belonging to a literary circle. Sister Margaret became the first woman administrator of a school within the county's history. Sister Nellie served in WWI Red Cross in Paris and on the front lines. When she returned home, she taught Latin to Greenfield students. In his book, A History of Hancock County Indiana in the Twentieth Century, Tom Williams describes Vernie Baldwin as a small woman with hair neatly pulled back, unmarried, high school graduate, every Sunday Presbyterian quiet.



The Greenfield Public Library was located at 100 West North Street from 1906 to 1985. This image was taken soon after the library was built, circa 1910. The Carnegie library was the first standalone library to be built in Greenfield. The building would serve as the public library for over 75 years. Today the building is home to Carnegie's Restaurant, which has occupied the space since 1999.

Image courtesy of the Indiana Historical Society, P0003.

As Librarian, she never had more than a single assistant. Some of those assistants included Francis T. New, Harriet Deakyne, Martha Smitherman, Jo Boyd, Mary Ruth Brown, and Caroline Pickett.

During Vernie's day, the library had a valuable collection of corals and shells which were donated by Mr. D.H. Goble. In 1925, through the estate of local teacher Anna Chittenden, a donation of \$2,849.40 was received. In 1928, the library board voted to use some of the funds to furnish an area as a children's nook. The library also had paintings by Richard Black and Will Vawter, both of Greenfield. The Library board purchased the Vawter painting.

In these early years, the library grew at a quick pace after it moved into the Carnegie building. By the 1950s, the library held steady in checkouts and number of items owned. At this time, a membership to the library cost two dollars for those living outside of Center Township.

As with most any library, it was central to community events. One type of event that has always garnered a following are story hours.

In 1951, one such November story hour gained mention in the paper as having had 90 second graders on a Wednesday, 60 third graders on a Thursday, and 65 fourth graders on a Friday.

| YEAR | VOLUMES OWNED | CIRCULATION | BUDGET |
|------|---------------|-------------|---------|
| 1900 | 2,030 | - | - |
| 1920 | 10,066 | 26,885 | \$3,124 |
| 1924 | 12,929 | 28,222 | \$2,963 |
| 1928 | 14,202 | 30,452 | \$3,928 |
| 1930 | 15,179 | 35,728 | \$3,969 |
| 1940 | 14,773 | 30,385 | - |
| 1950 | 15,283 | 27,535 | - |



Patrons that participated in the 1953 summer reading. From left to right are Mary Jo Archibald, Catherine Archibald, Earl Archibald, Charles Silet, Jacque Faust, David Pasco, Barbara Faust, Yvonne Grimes, and Betty Duncan.

Image courtesy of the Joseph L. Skvarenina Image Collection, Hancock County Public Library, Greenfield, Indiana.

In 1955, the board discussed the possibility of countywide service to defray operating costs that were carried by Greenfield taxpayers. The Center Township library patrons were no longer entitled to free library service. The township trustees did not renew their contract to approve a four-to-five-cent tax levy. Center Township residents were now required to pay a membership. Service was renewed in 1967. In 1958, it was reported that books and materials were loaned to hospital patients. Also the library served as an information bureau. Staff answered questions, including those formulated on television quiz shows. Sputnik had created an interest in science books among children.

Vernie Baldwin retired after 47 years of library service in 1959. She was given a small retirement dinner at the Copper Kettle in Morristown. Remarks were made by former Mayor Arthur Downing and library attorney Stephen Free. Many leading citizens were in attendance. Baldwin was presented a gold branch in appreciation.

In August 1961, the library held fine-free days that allowed patrons to return books without a penalty.

The Indiana General Assembly had recently passed the "Public Library Protection Act" which provided a penalty for those who failed to return library materials within 30 days after a legally prescribed notice had been sent.

Inside the Carnegie library around 1978 or after.
Image courtesy of the Indiana State Library, Library Development Office.

In the 1970s, the library board discussed expansion. In 1971, the board began investigating new locations and at one time even considering a property swap with Greenfield-Central schools. A new building in the area of 10,000 square feet was expected to cost upwards of \$250,000. The library had around \$100,000 in its building fund with an annual budget of \$78,850. The ideal location for a new library was near the high school.

In 1977, Cherylyn Wehlacz became the library director. Wehlacz put the issue of constructing a new library at the top of her to-do list because of the chronic need for building space and repairs. At this time the old library housed around 50,000 books in a building designed for only 8,000. In 1979, there was discussion between the Downtown Merchants and Professional Association and the library board about the proposed location of the new library. Robert Eagleston and Don Hatke represented the Downtown Merchants. The merchants wanted the library to stay downtown. Also in 1979, the "Friends of the Library" met to form a new organization. One of the group's primary goals was to help get the public involved in serving the library in its expansion efforts.

The site of the new building was located near the high school at 700 North Broadway. The addition of two other lots owned by Tom McClarnon made the site possible. In 1982, when the first bond issue proposal of \$1.2 million for the new building was put forth, a remonstrance was organized.

The request for a bond was withdrawn by the board according to Board President Mary Cross. The library board scaled down their request and submitted a request for an \$805,000 bond. An additional tax of 30-cents per \$100 assessed value would occur during the first year because of start-up costs.

This time there was no remonstrance. Canvassers got busy and collected 1,548 signatures in favor of the bond. These signatures were verified on April 4, 1983, by the auditor, Irene Kramer. Canvassers included Susan Billings, Sandra Miller, Penny S. Smith, Margaret S. Volpe, Patricia M. Young, Jane H. White, Ross E. VanDuyn, Martha E. Smitheran, Linda E. Hansen, Beverly Jean Splater, Willa Jean Lopez, Donna S. Hunter, Sara R. Geile, Fern M. Wolfe, and Evelyn M. Meyers. The library board at the



time included Mary Cross, Pearlann Haines, Timothy Clarke, Margaret Bartnick, Charles Geile, Donald G. Hoffman, and Ronald R. Pritzke with Thomas Cone as legal counsel. James Keil served as financial advisor and Pecsok, Jelliffe, Randall and Nice, as architects. Eventually, a building on north Broadway Street would replace the Carnegie structure as a library.

In November 1988, the Greenfield Public Library gained a fierce advocate in the state legislature when Beverly Gard was elected to the Indiana Senate. Gard was born in North Carolina and raised in Norris, Tennessee and later Chattanooga, Tennessee. She was a frequent library visitor as a child and was considered quite the bookworm by her mother. After graduating college from the University of Chattanooga, with a degree in chemistry and specialization in biochemistry, she moved to Indiana in 1964. She worked for Eli Lilly as a biochemist at the Kentucky Avenue building in Indianapolis. Several years later, she and her husband Don moved to Greenfield. When she had children, Gard chose to stay home to raise them and to get involved in the community. In her first session in 1989, one of the initial issues brought to her was the lack of library service in Hancock County.

Throughout her tenure in the senate, Gard was an advocate for libraries. Her greatest library legislation success was the alteration of the County Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT) requirements. The change allowed libraries to draw funding from the income tax credit rather than property taxes. It was truly a game changer for library service in Hancock County. Almost immediately after its passage, countywide library service was approved. In June 2001, Gard was nominated to the Hancock County Public Library's (HCPL) board. While on the board, she assisted in several HCPL milestones such as the redesign of the McKenzie building, purchase of the Sprinter van bookmobile, and the 2016 New Palestine land purchase. In a 2017 interview, she stated that she considered these to be her greatest successes while on the board and was excited to see where the library is headed.

Her only regret was that Fortville never opted in for countywide service. "Hopefully, that will resolve itself in the next couple of years." Gard's time on the board ended in May 2017 after she had served the maximum 16 years. In a May 15, 2017, Daily Reporter article, Director

Dave Gray stated that Gard and fellow board member Dr. Ted Gabrielsen’s “leadership and guidance over the years [have] been incredible.”

In a 1990 referendum, the vast majority of rural Hancock County residents asked for full library privileges. Also, circulation statistics showed that 76 percent of items removed from the library were reading materials and 24 percent were audio-visual materials.

On June 26, 1991, Thomacine Hayworth of the Daily Reporter wrote, “City Library Chief Quits Amid Probe” due to financial irregularities. Director Cheri Wehlacz was formally charged and arrested on November 22, 1991. Charges against Wehlacz stated that she purchased books, art work, compact discs, cassette tapes, and other materials with library funds. The items would then be converted for personal use or given away. She was also charged with misappropriation of money collected from fines. These crimes occurred between January 1989 and June 1991. Other earlier improprieties were suspected but there was insufficient evidence to charge Wehlacz. In fall 1991, she returned 457 items, repaid the library \$8,488.38 for mishandled funds, and paid \$1,100 in attorney fees for a State Board of Accounts audit. Judge Richard Culver originally considered sentencing Wehlacz to eighteen months in jail on two felony counts and one year in jail on the third and fourth count. At Wehlacz’s sentencing hearing on January 15, 1992, instead of jail time Wehlacz was required to serve 180 days of home detention, perform 200 hours of community service, and was barred from public office for five years. She was also ordered to pay a further \$1,878.51 following a county prosecutor’s investigation. Judge Culver served Wehlacz with a lighter sentence due to her cooperation with authorities in the form of repaying funds, seeking psychiatric treatment

before the court ordered it, and resigning voluntarily. Libby Sheets was appointed interim director by the board.

John McConagha was chosen to be the new director by the library board on October 8, 1991. He was previously the director at the Charleston County Library in South Carolina. Rather than dwell on the past, McConagha wished to look toward the future. McConagha stated in a November 30, 1991 Daily Reporter article, “I’m seeking to look ahead not in the past and continue to offer good library service to the community. Everything is based upon that. In time, if we meet the community’s need, then we have fulfilled our mission.” He listed his goals as streamlining library processes, freeing up workspace for staff and patrons, and setting some long-term goals for the library.

“No new taxes” was the slogan for 1992. Director John McConagha was able to maintain the same tax rate necessary for library operations while increasing its overall budget. McConagha credited Greenfield’s economic and population growth, which helped increase the tax base. Additionally, in 1992, an IBM computer was made available for patron use. In February, the preserved remains of a great horned owl, an endangered species, were donated to the library by Stan and Pat Young. A new collection of recorded books on audio cassettes was added. Patrons were allowed to check out two titles at a time. In March, a new pilot program began to distribute \$15 student cards to students who attended Greenfield Central School System or St. Michael’s School but did not live in the library district. A family membership for non-Greenfield students cost \$75. In November, the board approved the purchase of Newsbank, a computer research tool that allowed patrons to access wire service reports. 1993 was the year of surveys and studies. The board and Director John McConagha began investigating new ways to serve the public. One study focused on senior citizens and mapping their projected library use. Another involved a usage study of non-resident student cards continued from 1992.

Other studies included expanding services elsewhere in the county and assessing which ones to enhance or expand. Later in 1993, the library began offering students outside of the Greenfield school district access to the \$15 student card. In November 1993, the Gaylord



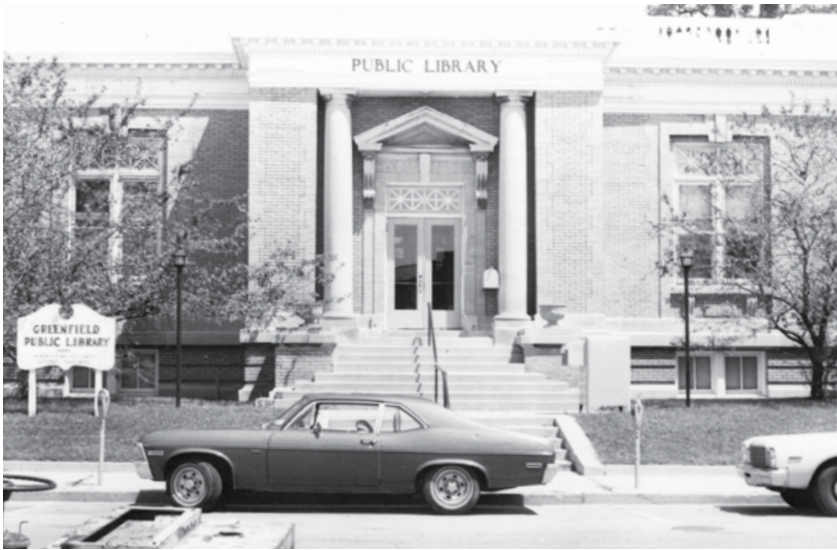
The Greenfield Public Library was located at 100 West North Street from 1906 to 1985. This image was taken soon after the library was built, circa 1910. The Carnegie library was the first standalone library to be built in Greenfield. The building would serve as the public library for over 75 years. Today the building is home to Carnegie’s Restaurant, which has occupied the space since 1999.
Image courtesy of the Indiana Historical Society, P0003.

online catalog system was put into use.

The system eventually allowed patrons to use their home computer to access the library’s online catalog for the first time. In 1994, plans proceeded to add dial-up access service to patrons with computers to scan the library’s catalog from home. A Macintosh computer was added to the children’s department, with programs to allow the user to walk through a zoo or play inside books. By 1994, the library owned four computers for public use, one in the children’s area and three for adults. In the adult area, patrons had to be aged fifteen or older and could use the computer two hours daily in one-hour blocks with a limit of six hours weekly. The Friends of the Library group was instrumental in assisting with computer and hardware purchases for the library during those early years. In June, John McConagha resigned as director of the library. Susan Waggoner was appointed to the position in November. Also throughout 1994, the library hosted a weekly Brown Bag book discussion group in connection with the county’s Mental Health Association. The group still meets on a monthly basis in the library today. The library also offered free tax preparation assistance for the elderly, low income, or persons with disabilities. The budget proposal for the 1995 year increased six percent to \$742,383. Acting Director Libby Sheets cited the steady growth of Greenfield as reason to increase services with the expectation that the economic growth would pay for any increase in budget.

In 1995, the library began using a local area network for its three adult computers. The terminals could access a multi-drive computer running several software products for reference services. Several more computers were expected to be installed by the end of the year. In May, the library allowed children to borrow video cassettes in the form of educational television programs specifically developed for youth. At this time, feature films were not included in this category.

To celebrate ten years at the Broadway building, the library held a week-long celebration titled “Changing Libraries - Changing Lives.” It was held from April 10 to April 16, 1995. The events included a recognition day for local leaders, current and former library staff, Friends of the Library members, and those involved with the building of the library; a patron appreciation day; a children’s day; and a staff appreciation day. The library was also spruced up with new signage, rearranged seating areas, fresh coats of paint, and a thorough cleaning inside and out. Even though it had only been ten years since the move, space was already at a premium. Director Susan Waggoner knew there would be a need to increase public access terminals, create new meeting and staff space, and add an Indiana and genealogy room.



An exterior shot of the Carnegie library in the 1970s or later.
Image courtesy of the Indiana State Library, Library Development Office.



In 1996, the library entered the year of the Internet. In April, the library launched its first website. It was hosted by Greenfield-Central High School.

The site was simple with general contact information, pages for kids, reference, policies, and an Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC).

<http://gcsc.12.in.us/~Library/GPL.HTM>.

The library as a whole contained over 113,000 items with 57,873 adult hardbacks, 6,457 adult paperback, and 30,338 juvenile hardbacks. A yearly membership to the library at this time was \$50 for an individual, \$75 for a family, and \$15 for a student.

In February 1996, CD-ROMs became available for public use. One such disc was a program from the Internal Revenue Service that contained printable tax forms. The library also offered programming on using the World Wide Web. Greenfield-Central High School seniors Diane Davenport and Roxanne Rieske taught the class. Also, a task force met to discuss a practical plan to extend library service county-wide.

Another large happening in 1996 was the installation of the traveling museum piece “Beyond Category: The Musical Genius of Duke Ellington” at the library. It was on display from May 2 to June 15. The exhibit was organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the American Library Association. The exhibit focused on the legacy of Edward Kennedy “Duke” Ellington (1899-1974). The exhibit was a two-year tour to 30 public and academic libraries. The library hosted various events during the exhibit. Some included: Sonny Bates “Poet Extraordinaire,” “Harlem Renaissance” discussion with Carl Hines, and “The Jazz State of Indiana” with author Duncan Schiedt. Two concerts also occurred, the Dixieland Jazz Band concert at the Greenfield Christian Church and Ellington Concert by Naptown Jazz at the Courthouse Plaza. County-wide service was on the minds of residents in 1997. In late 1996, a task force was

“Very good idea - I support it 100%”
and “Would prefer to see library service
available to all” and “Let’s DO this!!”

- Response from resident surveys

formed by the Greenfield Public Library, Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library, New Palestine Community Library, and county residents living outside a library district. At the time, Hancock County ranked third in the state economically yet 68 percent of its residents lacked any library service. One of the group’s primary purposes was to survey residents. A total of 1,000 surveys were sent to county residents outside of the library district (See Appendix E for survey and results). Some comments from the survey included “Very good idea - I support it 100%” and “Would prefer to see library service available to all” and “Let’s DO this!!” The group also created informational pamphlets to inform citizens about a county-wide library system, proposed tax rate and method, and the current status of Hancock County in comparison to other counties in relation to income, state rankings, and unserved populations. The survey offered significant qualitative data on the community’s desire to see library service extended. While county-wide service did not result from the survey, the Fortville and Greenfield libraries signed reciprocal borrowing agreements. The service went into effect October 1 and is still in existence today.

In August 1998, Greenfield Public Library celebrated its one hundredth anniversary. At the event “The Century Remembered,” there was a walking tour of historical downtown Greenfield, an ice cream social sponsored by the Friends of the Library, music by Cathy Morris and Silken Strings, and a fashion show from the past 100 years provided by Goodwill Service Guild. Philanthropist Andrew Carnegie was also in attendance, as impersonated by Jon Burroughs. The library gave those with outstanding fines a free pass for one week.

After years of working to expand library service in the county, residents of Sugar Creek Township were delighted to see the Greenfield Public Library Board vote to annex the township into its taxing district on November 10, 1998. Another vote by the Sugar Creek Advisory Board on November 23 would make the service official. The Greenfield Public Library gained approximately 9,000 potential new patrons. The library also adopted the Mary M. Nichols New Palestine Community Library building as its branch in Sugar Creek Township. The branch was open six days a week. Jeanette Sherfield has managed the branch from the beginning. The Greenfield Public Library became the Greenfield-Sugar Creek Public Library in December 1998.

Also, in 1998, Senator Beverly Gard began writing Senate Bill 166. The bill amended restrictions on the use of the County Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT). CEDIT had generally been used to finance economic development and capital improvement projects but Bill 166 would allow up to 0.15 percent of local income taxes to replace the standard property tax. Until this point, libraries derived the bulk of their funding from property taxes. Hancock County Commissioner Armin Apple presented the original idea. One of the primary issues in switching to county-wide service cited by local politicians was that an increase in property tax was too much of a burden on farmers and senior citizens. In a 2017 interview, Gard said, “I thought, the legislature is never going to approve this.” Despite the apprehension, Gard drafted legislation built around the bold, new idea. Gard showed that CEDIT could easily support a county-wide library with no undue burden on property owners. In February 1999, the bill passed the senate and was sponsored in the house by Bob Cherry and Scott Mellinger. The Hancock County Council also gave initial approval for CEDIT.

On May 11, 1999, the Greenfield-Sugar Creek Public Library became the Hancock County Public Library. The previous day, county-wide service officially began when the Hancock County Commissioners voted 2-1 to create a county library taxing district. On May 12, the Hancock County Council voted unanimously to enact the CEDIT levy. The library district now included rural Center, Green, Brown, Buck Creek, Jackson,

Brandywine, and Blue River Townships. Sugar Creek had been included the previous year, and Vernon Township continued as its own district. The original Greenfield Public Library was serving about 12,000 people. The addition of Sugar Creek Township increased that by 11,000. Once county-wide service was created (minus Vernon Township), the new district would serve nearly 40,000 residents. The library saw a tremendous increase in circulation and attendance at programs. In 1998, the library had an increase of 19 percent, and in 1999 there was an increase of 68 percent for all programs and activities, including circulation. The number of library cards issued tripled. A new website was also created for the rebranded library: <http://hancockpub.lib.in.us/>.

Faced with an ever-growing population and skyrocketing library use, the Library Board began a feasibility study in 1999. The study was spurred on when the library received a \$400,000 Build Indiana Grant. The purposes of the study were to investigate expanding the Broadway St. location or building a new library in Greenfield; the construction of a branch in the populous western part of the county; purchasing a bookmobile; and extending other outreach services to remote areas. The library hired K.R. Montgomery & Associates to analyze the library’s current and future needs. The firm presented their results in March 2000. The proposals ranged from a building spaced between 44,000-95,000 square feet and at a cost of \$6-9.4 million. Some of these proposals also factored in a new branch library and a bookmobile.

Also in 1999, the library was ranked eighth in the country by the American Library Association American Libraries magazine for libraries with a population between 10,000 and 99,999 people. Later in the year, the library began purchasing DVDs for the collection. Some of the first titles included A Bug’s Life, Top Gun, Mary Poppins, Cats and Deep Impact. The library also received a \$4,000 grant from the Hancock County Community Foundation on behalf of the Indiana Genealogical Society to purchase a computer and software exclusively for genealogical research. 1999 was truly a banner year for the library and the Hancock County community.

Having ushered the library into the twenty-first century, Director Susan Waggoner left HCPL in September 2000 after six years on the job. Waggoner was credited with leading HCPL through the digital boom of the 1990s and being instrumental in the effort to create county-wide library service. Waggoner would leave September 26 to head the Oxford Public Library in Pennsylvania. Her only regret in leaving the library was not being able to see the new building project through to its completion. To replace Waggoner, the HCPL board appointed Assistant Director Dianne Osborne.

VALUE STATEMENT

We, The Hancock County Public Library, value lives the best way... one person at a time.

We are:

- W Windows to the world
- E Enabling personal growth
- V Valuable educational, family, & business resources
- A Accessible to all Hancock County citizens
- L Long distance learning capable
- U Uniquely financed, not by property taxes
- E Enhancing the quality of life
- L Life long learning providers
- I Informing & stimulating
- V Varieties of friendly services, programs & materials
- E Economically delivering value & fiscal responsibility
- S Serving all people

Osborne grew up in Covington, Indiana. She started her career as a U.S. history and world geography teacher in Columbus, Ohio, and later in Cincinnati. She received her bachelor’s degree from Purdue and a master’s degree in education from Indiana University. When she became a mother, she left teaching and chose to focus her attention on raising her four children. After moving to Greenfield, when her husband Chris got a job in Indianapolis, she started working at the library part-time in the early 1990s. After working in the field for several years, she earned her master’s degree from IUPUI in library science in 1995. She transferred to the reference department and was soon promoted to assistant director and then director in 2000. In a September 12, 2000 Daily Reporter article, Osborne stated she was “excited and thrilled at the opportunity” and that it had been a long-time goal for her to become director. She noted that there would not be major changes in the direction of the library as it was already undergoing a major construction and outreach projects. Susan Waggoner heartily endorsed Osborne’s promotion stating she would “do a terrific job” and was the “logical person to be director.”

In September 2000, the board voted to double the capacity of the parking lot to accommodate the growing staff and the increased number of patron visits after county-wide service took effect. The board also sought to establish a permanent library endowment through the Hancock County Community Foundation. In October, the library created a temporary resident library card. The card could be issued to those living in the county but not to permanent residents. These cards would be good for three months and allowed patrons to check out two items at a time.

In January 2001, the library considered the process of filtering internet access due to a federal law that was under consideration. If libraries did not comply they would lose federal funding. All computers were eventually outfitted with filters by 2004. In the summer of 2001, the library opened a temporary branch at the Eastern Hancock Middle School. The location featured two classrooms for books and a lab outfitted with 27 computers. It was open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and from noon until 8 p.m. on Thursdays. A permanent drop box was also installed at the school. Library cards were distributed to 1,100 students in the district in grades kindergarten through twelfth. Also in 2001, the library won a \$1,000 grant from the A&E Network for its “Great Gatsby Day” centered on The Great Gatsby and its promotion of the network’s screening. The library launched a renewal hotline that allowed patrons to call in and have their items renewed. A wheelchair ramp and book drop were added to the Sugar Creek Branch. In October, Unique Management Services, a collection agency, was enlisted to assist the library in retrieving lost materials and settling accounts with excessive fines. After ten years of using Unique, the library had recovered some \$260,000 or \$5 for every \$1 invested in the service. In November, the library created the teacher card. The card was available to teachers, resident and non-resident alike, at public and private schools in the county. It allowed teachers to check out twice the number of holiday materials, to reserve videos, to receive extra long loans, and to request materials via courier.

In preparation of the library’s expansion the board and staff begin developing a strategic plan. In February 2002, they established the library’s commitment to the community through the creation of value and mission statements.

Two major projects in 2002 were the addition of the Techmobile and the leasing of the former CVS building in New Palestine for the Sugar Creek Branch. A mobile outreach vehicle and a larger branch on the western side of the county had long been on the wishlist since the 1999 feasibility study. On January 8, the library board voted to approve the vehicle purchase at a cost of \$178,571. The project was paid for by a Community Alliances to Promote Education (CAPE) grant from the Eli Lilly Foundation. The 35-foot bus was built by Ohio Bus Systems. The Techmobile was outfitted with a satellite dish for internet connection, four computer stations, space for books and magazines, and a restroom. It was also wheelchair accessible. The Techmobile went into service in January 2003. In summer 2002, the library signed the lease for the old CVS building at 5087 West U.S. 52 in New Palestine. Again K.R. Montgomery & Associates was hired to adapt the building into a new library. Major structural changes to the building took place and included more windows, exterior additions like signs, a programming room funded by Eli Lilly & Co., a children’s area, and multiple areas for technology. A garage was also constructed to house the new Techmobile.

Also in 2002, the library began Sunday hours to accommodate busy families. In a February 25, 2002 Daily Reporter article, Director Dianne Osborne stated, “When I first started here 13 years ago, I thought ‘Never on Sundays’ ... But lifestyles change, and families are busy. We have to take that into consideration.” During the summer, a second temporary branch at Mt. Comfort Elementary school was opened. The move was, in large part, due to the success of the location at Eastern Hancock Middle School. In October, the library received a \$10,000 Excelerator grant from SBC Ameritech Foundation. The money went towards the purchase of a mobile wireless internet lab outfitted with eight laptop computers and a locked cart for storage and transport. The total cost for the lab was \$16,200. Earlier in the year, the Sugar Creek Branch received a \$20,000 grant from Eli Lilly & Co. for the purchase of a wireless lab. Network Administrator, Steve Jones and Systems Manager, Dave Gray were acknowledged in Library Hotline, a national newsletter, for installing a wireless network at the library.

On January 16, 2003, the Techmobile was christened. State Senator Beverly Gard and Hancock County Commissioner Armin Apple addressed the crowd. John Carreon, president of the Hancock County Community Foundation, christened the vehicle with champagne. The public was then invited to explore the new mobile library. In its first year, the Techmobile had over 10,000 visitors.

The converted CVS building was renovated into the new Sugar Creek Branch. Over the spring and summer the library ran a Plant-a-Branch campaign that raised \$13,150 for a silk tree in the children’s room. In total, around 84 individual businesses, organizations, and private donors gave money for the tree. A \$20,000 gift was received from Eli Lilly & Co. This gift went towards purchasing 40 new computers and renovating the programming room. During the first week of June, the library made the transition from the Mary Nichols Building to the new location on U.S. 52. On June 9, the branch opened for business. The facility, furnishings, and renovations cost about \$1 million.

Also in 2003, talk of a library merger with Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library was dismissed in January. Vernon Township residents and its library board cited independence and an idyllic quaintness about the library as reasons for turning down a merger. The SIRSI system was implemented as the new integrated library system (catalog). Librarian Marcia Hunt hosted an “At Your Library” program at the Greenfield High School radio station, WRGF 89.7 FM, on Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. It was funded by the Friends of the Hancock County Public Library and on the air for one year.

VISION STATEMENT

The Hancock County Public Library provides superior county-wide library service convenient to and used by all residents through excellent programs and materials that are not purchased with property taxes. We do this one life at a time.



The Sugar Creek Branch of the Hancock County Public Library in 2007. The library is located at 5087 West U.S. 52. Opened in 2002, the site was a former CVS building.

During 2003 and 2004, the library started its search for a new library location. The library had considered adding to the Broadway St. location but decided against it. The library then looked to purchase a larger location with an existing structure. One location was the old Wal-Mart building. After Wal-Mart had moved to its super center location, the library considered renovating the existing structure (it is now occupied by Goody's and Tractor Supply Company). Finally in November 2003, the board of directors settled on a location. The library paid \$241,875 for the 10.75-acre plot on the corner of McKenzie Road and Franklin Street. Leading up to the purchase, the library was on the verge of starting condemnation proceedings (eminent domain) as the original owners showed few signs of establishing a dialogue or accepting a fair value offer. In July, estimates for the construction project increased by \$1 million from \$6.5 to \$7.5 million. This was due to a high demand for construction work at the time, and a large high school construction project in Franklin, IN that siphoned off many of the library's lower bids. To reduce costs, the library worked to reduce the cost of available bids. This effort brought the cost to \$7 million. The library used \$500,000 from the rainy day fund to fill in the gap. An estimated \$600,000 would be needed to outfit the library with new furniture and technology. At the August 3, 2004, board meeting, the board voted to approve the bids and begin construction. On August 23, 2004, the HCPL Board and Director Dianne Osborne broke ground for the new Main Library building at McKenzie Road and Franklin Street.

The plot of land at the new site was 10.75 acres, enough to allow for expansion in later years. The project architect was

K.R. Montgomery & Associates of Anderson, Indiana, with Meyer Najem acting as construction supervisor. The proposed building would be approximately 40,000 square feet and feature a separate area for adults, children, and teens; two study rooms; an Indiana history and genealogy room; two computer labs; a spacious community room for events; and ample office space for staff members. The exterior architecture of the building would feature large sloping roofs, floor-to-ceiling windows, brick siding, and a visually appealing cone-shaped standing seam roof on one end of the building. The project would take just over a year to complete.

In June 2004, the library began orchestrating its capital campaign to raise funds for technology and furniture. To meet the \$600,000 goal, the library hired consultant Boris Frank. Frank worked to gauge public interest and needs for the library as well as provide advice on pursuing fundraising from public and corporate sources. Because of other capital campaigns going on in the community, the library chose a two-stage approach: pursue large corporate donations from September to the end of 2004 and then move to soliciting donations from the public in 2005. By February 2005, about \$375,000 had been raised. The Greenfield Banking Co. contributed a sum large enough to earn the naming rights to the community rooms. Other significant donations included \$15,000 towards a study room by the Daily Reporter, \$10,000 by the Eaton Corporation, and undisclosed donations by Eli Lilly Greenfield Labs, Friends of the Library, and Keihin Indiana Precision Technology.

On the east side of the county, the Eastern Hancock Branch secured a permanent home at the Eastern Hancock Elementary School. The branch originally operated during the summers at the middle school, but a permanent location opened in January 2004. Located in room 205, the small library was initially open Tuesdays and Thursdays 3 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon. While closed on holidays, the library would continue operation during the summer. The library collection was curated for persons of all ages, but a significant portion was devoted to children's materials. If the branch did not have materials, patrons could place items on hold and have them shipped to the branch. Cindy Warburton, an EHES classroom aide, took charge of the branch library. Assistant Director, Diana Hoy credited the Eastern Hancock administrators with establishing the new branch, particularly administrative assistant, Debbie Spangler. In a 2017 interview with past director, Dianne Osborne, she described the staff at Eastern Hancock as "very supportive." For Osborne, outreach on the east side was essential to serving the whole of the county. Osborne stated, "[We were] committed to taking the library to them knowing that we weren't on everyone's path, like for the people in Eastern Hancock school... we wanted to take it to them."

Also in January 2004, the SIRSI Single Search allowed patrons to search all of the online records that HCPL subscribed to, including INSPIRE, with one "single search." In addition, Envisionware software was installed. This software worked with the SIRSI system and allowed patrons to sign themselves up for internet times. HCPL also received two Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) grants. One grant provided Spanish language materials on the Techmobile to be taken to the community's Spanish-speaking population. The other grant was awarded in June 2004 to provide a wireless

internet upgrade to allow patrons to use their laptops at the library. To mark the end of 2004, the library accepted a bid for \$600,000 for the sale of the 700 N. Broadway St. building. The First Church of God submitted the winning offer. The library originally wanted to sell the property for no less than ninety percent of the site's \$870,000 appraised value, as required for publicly owned land and property sales. However, after few parties were interested in the property, it went to the highest bidder. Director Dianne Osborne stated in a December 30, 2004 Greenfield Daily Reporter article, "We can live with that." The property is now owned by the Greenfield-Central Community School Corporation.

In January 2005, the library began phase two of the capital campaign and started a public push for fundraising through school initiatives and a brick-naming campaign. Students at area schools assisted in raising about \$3,000 through the "Million Pennies" campaign. The brick sale was called "Pave a Path to the Future" and allowed individuals to purchase inscribed bricks that would be placed outside the library entrance. A total of \$65,000 was raised from the sale. One of the largest private individual donations came from state senator and board member Beverly Gard, and her husband Don. They donated \$25,000 to pay for computers, furniture, and equipment to outfit the instructional computer lab. Many donations were made as tributes to individuals. One such donation was by Cynthia's Hallmark for \$25,000 in honor of Cynthia Erwin. In total, the library's capital campaign raised \$536,760.18 to help fund new technology and furnishings in the \$7.5 million building. In a November 28, 2005 Daily Reporter article, Director Dianne Osborne said, "Everyone has been very generous in getting the library started. We were overwhelmed by their response."



The Techmobile fresh off the assembly line in December 2002.

The groundbreaking for the site of the McKenzie Library took place on August 23, 2004. Pictured from left to right are: Business Manager E.J. Kline, Board Member Dana Hochstedler, Board Member Jane Pfaff, Board Member Loren Imes, Board President Harlan Smith, and Director Dianne Osborne.



As 2005 drew to a close, the library began its move to the McKenzie building. On November 11, the library shut down for two weeks. During this move-in period, contractors were doing finishing touches such as electrical work and landscaping. Substantial planting was saved for the following spring. At the same time, staff and books made the move. The library hired United Van Lines' Carney-McNicholas agency, a specialty moving company for libraries, to transfer materials to the new building. Any events that had been planned were held at different locations and patrons received extended loan periods. Library spokesperson Kitty Smock stated in a November 10, 2005 Daily Reporter article, "There is a really nice plan in place to get the move done. We expect the move will go very well."

The big day finally came on November 28, 2005. The Hancock County Public Library officially opened its doors to the public. Present at the ribbon cutting were the library board comprised of Loren Imes, Jane Pfaff, Beverly Gard, Harlan Smith, Dr. Ted Gabrielsen, and Mark Copeland; Director Dianne Osborne; and president of the Greater Greenfield Chamber of Commerce, Linda Imel. The library featured many amenities. There were two computer labs: one public lab with around 30 stations and an enclosed instructional lab with 20 stations. The children's room featured an activity room, aquarium, reading nooks, and a restroom. The teen area was separate and included study booths, televisions, and access to the neighboring computer lab. The library also added space for its local history and genealogy collection. Two enclosed study rooms were included and named after the Greenfield Rotary Club and Daily Reporter newspaper. Self-check stations were also added. For staff, there were individual office spaces for each of the library's departments including administration, adult services, youth services, circulation, technical services, IT, and building services. The Friends of the Library were provided a space for an office and book storage. The crowning jewels of the library were the Greenfield Banking Company Community Rooms. The area could seat 200 people and was outfitted with projectors, audio-visual equipment, conferencing technology, and featured an attached kitchen.

At the time of the opening there were 39,844 registered

borrowers. In 2004, the library had 576,640 circulations with expectations to beat that in 2005. The collection had 139,709 items. One of the most popular titles of the year was Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince with eighteen copies and 130 checkouts in just over four months. The library increased in footprint from 16,000 square feet to 40,000. The new library added two study rooms seating between six and eight. A community room capable of seating two hundred people was constructed. Eight security cameras monitored the building. A total of 144 computers were installed with 3,500 feet each of coaxial cable and fiber optic cable plus 65,000 feet of CAT 6 cable.

In other news during 2005, the library began offering the HeritageQuest genealogy database. In June, the Eastern Hancock Branch moved to the high school building. In September, the library held a fundraiser for newborns at the Hancock Regional Hospital. Money raised by selling red clown noses went towards purchasing a new book for the baby and a card that removed all fines off of a parent's card. In October, patrons could start using their credit cards to pay off fines and to pay for other services like copying, fax, and lamination.

In January 2006, HCPL hosted a week-long series of events to mark the library's grand opening. Festivities included guided tours, a party in the teen area, and prizes for youngsters. In March, the United Way of Central Indiana launched Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Program for Hancock, Hendricks, and Marion County. The initiative provided a free book every month for children ranging in age from 0 to 5. The United Way provided \$750,000. The Hancock County Community Foundation pledged \$10,000 a year for five years to assist with the program's startup. Enrollment for the program began in May. The kickoff coincided with the start of the summer reading program, and all HCPL locations provided registration materials.

The program was eventually ended due to lack of funds but was revived in 2015. In July, a large amount of school supplies were stolen from the library's Backpack Attack donation bins. Fortunately, the community rallied, and various organizations like the Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church and the American Legion Honor Guard donated additional supplies toward the cause. Also in July, the library partnered with the Riley Old Home Society and Museum and also IUPUI's University Library Digital Initiatives Program to digitize 24 of its vintage poetry books, around 100 original letters from the museum, and around 200 photographs. The project was funded by the Library Services and Technology Art Digitization Grant. On July 27, the Eastern Hancock Branch located at the high school closed its doors due to lack of use. The branch had a dismal .0007 percent of the total circulation in May (343 items of the total 48,892). The area would still be served by the Techmobile and feature a dropbox at the middle school.

In January 2007, the Randall Majors Ship was installed in the children's area. The interactive art piece featured vibrant colors in the form of sea creatures and coral. The library commissioned the piece with proceeds from the Randall Majors Memorial Fund. As a high school student, Majors shelved books at the library. He later became a college professor at Indiana University and California State University and was a writer. In November, Newbery Medal winner Lois Lowry, author of The Giver and Number the Stars, gave a presentation to a packed house. Also in 2007, the reference department began using instant messaging technology.

Due to the economic recession beginning in 2008, the library became a place for the community and individuals to save money and look for jobs. In 2008, the library saw a four-percent increase in overall material usage. DVD checkouts spiked 28 percent in the first two months alone. The library also had high computer usage during this time period from individuals looking to cut their cable bills, apply for jobs online, and file for unemployment. To serve these patrons better, the library continued to offer computer tutorial courses and classes on using essential software like Microsoft Word and Excel.



The McKenzie library during construction in January 2005.

The library also introduced new classes like job searching, assistance in filling out online applications, writing cover letters and resumes, and using social networks to develop an online presence.

In 2008, HCPL became a Pathlight Partner with the Hancock County Community Foundation. For every \$2 the library raised for the library endowment, it would receive \$1 from the Community Foundation. During the Summer Reading festivities, the library held a local artist show. Any resident or cardholder was able to submit two works. Prizes were awarded by age, and a best-in-show was chosen by the mayor. In September, the library and Vincennes University formed a three-year agreement. The school was allowed to use the library's facilities as satellite classrooms at no charge. Although classes ceased in 2011, there is still a Vincennes representative onsite weekly to assist students. In October, the library had a James Whitcomb Riley display for Riley Fest. The display included several previously unseen artifacts from the Riley Old Home Society. The display was organized by Gwen Betor and Sharon Hamm.

In 2009, HCPL launched the "Paws to Read" program where children read stories aloud to a therapy dog. Shade the poodle was one of the first such dogs to visit the library and offered a non-judgemental ear to timid readers. The library still continues this program. Bentley's Buddies and Friends is one such group.



The ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of the Main Library on November 28, 2005. Pictured from left to right are: board members Loren Imes, Jane Pfaff, Senator Beverly Gard, Harlan Smith, Dr. Ted Gabrielsen, and Mark Copeland; Library Director Dianne Osborne; and President of the Greater Greenfield Chamber of Commerce, Linda Imel.

In April 2010, the library became a 24/7 operation when it launched OverDrive. The service is the main vendor for e-book and digital audiobooks. The initial collection began with a mere 103 ebooks and 208 audiobooks. Today the collection offers nearly 30,000 items for checkout. In June, a \$1 million expansion project at the Sugar Creek Branch hit a brick wall. The purpose of the redesign was to increase the library by 5,200 square feet and to grow the parking lot by 31 spaces. However, because the property was leased, the issue of “who owns what?” was raised. Ultimately, the project was struck down at the July board meeting. The library opted instead to buy taller shelving, rearrange furniture, and thin the collection where necessary to better utilize space. In August, the library installed a Nintendo Wii and Xbox 360 in the teen room. Patrons aged 13 to 19 could check out controllers and video games to play. In November 2010, the Daily Reporter ran a story titled “Separate and Unequal.” The article highlighted the vast differences between HCPL and Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library. While the two libraries shared reciprocal borrowing privileges and a passionate staff, many of the similarities stopped there. Greg Guerrettaz, president of Financial Solutions Group, Inc., had assisted the county council on many projects. One such project was a sustainability analysis for the two library systems. He argued that the county would likely save a significant amount of taxpayer money if the two systems merged. The libraries still operate on the reciprocal agreements today.

Lastly, a new information desk was installed in a central location at the main library for increased visibility.

In February 2011, Hancock County Historian and author Joseph Skvarenina donated a large portion of his personal collection of local history artifacts and books to the library for safekeeping and use by other historians.

On April 19, lightning struck the library’s roof over the local history and genealogy room. The fire was contained between the roof and the ceiling and was quickly put out by the Greenfield Fire Department with minimal damage. Firefighters took the time to cover the historical materials with a tarp so that none were lost. In a 2017 interview, then-director Dianne Osborne recalled the harrowing experience. “I thought that the whole world was going to flash in front of me that day. That we would lose not only the local history room but there’d be damage to this building after all the work that had gone into it... The firemen covered the yearbooks and other materials, tears were just flowing that they would do that.” In July, the library received a “Big Read” grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The \$9,200 grant focused on John Steinbeck’s 1939 novel, *The Grapes of Wrath*. The book was chosen for its relatability, because Hancock County is an agricultural area and because the area was still recovering from the 2008 Recession. In addition to the money provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the community also provided funds for the project.

The largest of donations was a \$4,000 grant from the Hancock County Community Foundation. Copies of the book were provided free of charge to residents. Programming for the event would take place in 2012. Also in 2011, the Children’s Department purchased robots through grants from Walmart and the Friends of the Library. In September, Vincennes University and HCPL decided not to renew their contract for the library to offer classroom space. Satellite classrooms were in decline as access to online course offerings increased.

The library’s “Big Read” took place throughout the month of March 2012. The community was encouraged to read John Steinbeck’s *The Grapes of Wrath* and take part in programs hosted by the library. Some programs included a keynote address by Professor Robert G. Barrows on FDR’s New Deal in Indiana; the music of Woody Guthrie; Creative Arts and Event Center art show; Purdue Extension Homemakers program on food, clothing, and life; and dances of the depression era with Stacy Poe.

Also in 2012, the library began tagging the entire collection in February with radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags for better sorting, improved control over inventory, and better turn-around time for returned materials. The tags also allowed patrons to avoid scanning tricky barcodes at the checkout. During the three-month project, the library attached around 190,000 stickers to library materials. The Library also installed a new exterior book drop sorter to take advantage of the new RFID technology. The sorters allowed for the immediate check-in of materials. A larger interior book drop sorter was installed a year later.

Also in 2012, the library board of trustees laid out the library’s five-year Capital Improvement Plan. There were several projects under consideration. One of the most ambitious goals was to establish a branch in McCordsville at an expected cost of \$2 million. Given the library would be in Vernon Township, it would be the most difficult goal to meet. In the end, no branch was established. In 2016 the library did provide library cards to all Mount Vernon school children regardless of status at the Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library. The library also looked into purchasing a new bookmobile to replace the aging Techmobile. Other plans included implementing more efficient tracking and sorting methods for materials, beginning the process for the early redemption of bonds, and identifying and estimating costs for future capital projects, so officials could allocate funding more efficiently. At the time, the library had \$900,000 in its library improvement reserve fund and \$2 million in its rainy day fund. The library also hoped to increase these funds over time, so they could be used to buffer large projects like a new branch or bookmobile.

With regards to Dave Gray,
the new director,

“David’s style and his
experience and his focus
is exactly what this
library [needed].”

-Beverly Gard

In January 2013, Library Director Dianne Osborne announced she would be retiring after 23 years of library service, thirteen of which were as director. Her last day was April 30. During her tenure, the library went through two major construction projects: the renovation of the old CVS building to become the Sugar Creek Branch and the construction of the \$7.5 million McKenzie building. She also oversaw the \$600,000 capital fundraiser to purchase furniture and technology for the new library. Today, Osborne still considers these to be her greatest successes. Osborne cited a busy private life as one of the main reasons for retirement. At home, her husband Chris was in the late stages of Alzheimer’s disease, and she had four children, six grandchildren, and a 92-year-old mother. In addition to her years of service at HCPL, Osborne was engaged in projects and organizations throughout the community. She was a member and past president of the Hancock Regional Hospital board, member and past president of Greenfield Tri Kappa sorority, member of the Greenfield Kiwanis Club, and an involved member at Bradley United Methodist Church. In a 2017 interview with Osborne, she cited serving the eastern part of the county and Vernon Township as the greatest challenges during her tenure. For eastern Hancock County, a big challenge was getting residents to use the library. “They didn’t know they could have library service,” but the Techmobile and Eastern Hancock Branch helped to spread the word and better serve these residents when the library went county-wide in 1999. On Vernon Township, she said it still “bothers [her] to this day” that residents there do not have the quality of service HCPL offers. She recognized that at the time she considered herself too optimistic that the libraries would merge, but is confident one day “those lines will disappear.” To replace Osborne, Assistant Director, Dave Gray was unanimously selected as the new director by the board of trustees.

In a 2017 interview with former board president Beverly Gard, she remarked Osborne was the “perfect person” to lead the library when it went county-wide in 1999. In addition, Osborne was “very well respected in the community” and a “good face of the library.” With regards to Dave Gray, the new director, she said “David’s style and his experience and his focus is exactly what this library [needed].”

Dave Gray officially became director on May 1, 2013. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Purdue University and received his masters of library science from Indiana University. Before joining the library staff, Dave was an intern at Conseco in Carmel. Prior to being director, Gray served as the I.T. director from 2002-2010 and assistant director from 2011-2013. For Gray, it has been a fast four years as director. In a 2017 interview, he considered his greatest accomplishment to be streamlining the library’s organizational structure by reducing management, directing more staff toward patron services, and improving the staff salary structure. As director he has been involved in several major projects. The library purchased the Sprinter van bookmobile in 2015. From 2016 to 2017, the library engaged in a redesign of the Main Library’s interior space. Also in 2016, the library purchased two large plots of land. A plot in New Palestine will serve as the future site of the new Sugar Creek Branch, and a second plot adjacent to the current Main Library site will become additional parking. In the area of technology, Gray has put a greater reliance on the patron owning a personal device such as tablet, laptop, or smartphone. If a patron does not own one of these devices, the library purchased more

laptops, so patrons can take advantage of the increased seating areas throughout the library. Additionally, under Gray, there has been a large surge in digital resources. A significant portion of the materials budget goes towards purchasing e-books and downloadable audiobooks, as well as providing services that offer digital magazines, music, television shows, and movies. In 2017, the library received a \$3.2 million gift from the Dr. Ralph and Grace Rea estate. Dave feels one of the key factors in the success the library has had while serving as director was the opportunity to bring in Barb Roark as assistant director in 2013. Dave’s biggest hope for the future is to keep up and meet the expectations of the community.

In 2014, the library aimed for one million checkouts. The campaign was called “One-in-a-Million” and hoped to best the previous year’s circulation by nearly 100,000. Because the library saw a 92,457 checkout gain from 2012 to 2013, library staff were hopeful that circulation could hit the one-million mark. With the staff anxiously waiting on New Year’s Eve, they were informed they had managed to beat their goal by 8,714. Final totals were 463,593 print; 158,181 electronic; and 386,940 non-print (movies, CDs, video games). The library also offered 174 programs throughout the year, attracting 5,223 patrons total. This banner year was thanks not just to the dedicated staff but also to the patrons. Excluding Vernon Township, the library had 22,693 active cardholders or 38 percent of those living in the district. There were also 392,000 patron visits, an increase of nearly 40,000.

Also in 2014, the library made plans to decommission the Techmobile after 12 years of service. The 24-foot Sprinter van was purchased at a cost of \$143,000 from the Ohio company, Farber Specialty Vehicles. The van included a lift and featured mobile book carts that allowed for swapping out collections. These mobile carts enabled the outreach staff to bring materials into buildings and tailor collections for schools, nursing homes, and general visits. Other benefits to the Sprinter van were maneuverability, fuel savings, and drivers were not required to get a special license. In November, the library published its collection of digitized yearbooks on its website. The library worked with area schools to fill in the gaps of its own collection and utilized a free service offered by the Oklahoma Correctional Industries, a jobs-training program for jail inmates.

In November and December, County Historian Joseph Skvarenina interviewed veterans of all wars and conflicts for the Veterans History Project at the library. The project was organized by the Library of Congress American Folklife Center.

In February 2015, the library’s new Bookmobile made its first stop. Three grants were received throughout the year. A \$6,502 LSTA grant funded a newspaper digitization project. A \$5,000 LSTA grant went toward the construction of the Nature Nook in the youth area. And a \$1,000 YALSA (Young Adult Library Services Association) grant went toward the purchase of ten electronic Wacom drawing tablets. In May, the library attempted the “Books On Brains” world record. The goal was to best a Guinness World Record for most people walking with a book on their head. While the library did not best the 998-person world record, nearly 700 people participated and beat the North American record. HCPL was also named one of the top five best workplaces by the Indianapolis Star in the small business category. The library also assisted in the resurrection of the Imagination Library (a children’s literacy program started by singer Dolly Parton) in Hancock County. To avoid the funding pitfalls of the first Imagination Library a decade before, the program was offered first to babies born in 2016 and would grow yearly until all children aged 0-5 would be able to register for the program. To finish out 2015, the circulation count went over one million for the second year in a row.

In 2015, the library board developed the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan. In areas of outreach, the library would focus on childhood literacy, effective senior and youth outreach, and improved assessment of the needs of users and non-users of the library. In the areas of facilities, the library would investigate a new Sugar Creek Branch building and increase collaborative spaces at the Main Library. In the area of technology, there would be

a commitment to mobile technology, such as wireless hotspots and iPads. To create a more stable organization, the library would focus on maintaining a skilled staff and board, work to inform citizens and county officials about how the library receives funding, and maintain adequate funding through CEDIT/EDIT. In the area of communication, the library would strengthen methods of sharing information through social media and continue to develop a brand through these messaging avenues. In another major initiative, the library registered area school children for library cards. During 2015 and 2016, all Eastern Hancock, Greenfield Central, and Mt. Vernon students were issued cards.

In March 2016, a major redesign project at the Main Library was announced. The library budgeted \$150,000 for the project. Changes included building three new study rooms; decreasing the number of computer workstations while increasing the number of laptops and iPads; creating more study space in the quiet reading area by installing bar seating against the windows; creating a lobby seating area; rotating the bookshelves; and moving the audio-visual collection to create a collaborative work area. One organizational change during the renovation was the creation of the access services department. Adult services (reference) and circulation departments became one department. Along with the merger, the library transitioned to a single service desk to centralize and better meet patron needs. The year-long construction project concluded a year later in March 2017. The staff and public celebrated with a “Thank Goodness It’s Finished” open house.

Another major project in 2016 involved land purchases. In August, 5.25 acres were purchased in New Palestine. Located in the 5800 block of U.S. 52 and just north of the Woodland Terrace senior living facility, this area will serve as the new site of the Sugar Creek Branch. The land was purchased from Justus Property Management for \$700,000. The land purchase was forward thinking as the library still had six years on its lease. A second land purchase occurred later in the year. The library purchased a four-acre plot east of the Main Library’s parking lot. Once a soybean field, the \$80,000 parcel will be turned into parking.

Also in 2016, to celebrate Indiana’s bicentennial, the library held a history speaker series. The series featured a performance by noted Abraham Lincoln interpreter Danny Russel, a lecture on Indiana history by Dr. James Madison, and a presentation on the Fall Creek Massacre by Dr. David Thomas Murphy. The series was approved by the Indiana Bicentennial Commission as a Bicentennial Legacy Project. Also in the area of history, the library opened the Joseph Skvarenina Collection for research.





In 2017 the estate of Dr. Ralph and Grace Rea presented a check to the library for \$3.2 million. Pictured from left to right are: library Board Member Libby Manship, Board Secretary Tom Seng, Board Member Reed Tarwater, Greenfield Banking Company Vice President Troy Griesmeyer, Greenfield Banking Company President John Kennedy, Director Dave Gray, the Rea estate lawyer Ray Richardson, Board Member Dr. Ted Gabrielsen, and Assistant Director Barbara Roark.

The county historian donated his extensive collection to the library in 2011. The collection contained images, paper records, books, and artifacts pertaining to the county's history. During the summer, the game Pokémon GO swept the nation. HCPL was a PokéStop and the Sugar Creek Branch served as a gym. Library staff created unique programming around the craze. In 2016, the library hit one million checkouts for a third year in a row. The total door count was 441,228 people, an increase of around 30,000 visitors. The library was commended by the state library for being in the top 15 libraries in the state for total circulation and top 10 for electronic circulation. The library also boasted a staff of 20 librarians with American Library Association accredited master's degree. This was an exceedingly high number of degreed librarians given its service population.

To the surprise of many, the library announced that it had received an astoundingly generous donation of \$3.2 million in March 2017. The money was gifted by the estate of Dr. Ralph and Grace Rea. Dr. Rea was born in Terre Haute, Indiana. He earned his bachelor's degree from Purdue University School of Agriculture in 1955 and graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine in 1960. He practiced medicine primarily as a family physician until retiring in 1992. He was remembered for his expert care, strong work ethic, and compassion toward his patients. During retirement, Dr. Rea picked up a love for bluegrass music and learned to play the banjo. He passed away on October 23, 2015. Grace Rea was born in Hardinsburg, Indiana. She graduated from the Indianapolis General Hospital in 1955 and worked as a registered nurse for 30 years before retiring in 1992. Mrs. Rea enjoyed growing orchids, reading, cooking, and was an amateur musician. She passed away June 5, 2008. Both were preceded in death by their daughter Natalie. The couple left a total of \$11 million to various charities, with a significant portion going to the Salvation Army.

The Rea bequest will help pay for the construction of the Sugar Creek Branch in New Palestine. The new building will be known as the Ralph and Grace Rea Memorial Building. The new building is expected to double in size from 7,480 square feet to approximately 12,000-15,000 square feet. A cost of \$4-5 million is expected. The library plans to break ground for the new Sugar Creek Branch in 2018. The new library should incorporate many of the same amenities that the Main Library has, such as a large community room, separate areas for various age groups, study rooms, increased seating, and open collaboration areas. K.R. Montgomery and Associates will once again act as architects. In addition to the new branch, the three study rooms constructed in 2017 at the Main Library have also been named in the Rea's honor. A display of the couple's personal items were also included near the study rooms. The collection includes Dr. Rea's high school ring, sheet music to the Purdue fight song, a Purdue Reamer's Club paddle, Mrs. Rea's nursing hat, and her poetry books. A digital slideshow is also projected next to the display featuring pictures of the couple throughout their life. The Hancock County Public Library and the community at large are immensely grateful for the Reas' generosity.

The future of the Hancock County Public Library is bright. For 120 years, the library has been a cornerstone of the community. The library originally started out as one room at the high school in the late-1800s with a few hundred books, and it served only Greenfield residents. Today, HCPL includes two branches, contains over 150,000 items, and serves the whole county. The community, leaders, and library staff have made this amazing transformation possible. The library continues to be committed to its mission of providing superior county-wide library service, in a financially responsible way, for all residents through excellent materials and programs.

A HISTORY OF THE MARY M. NICHOLS NEW PALESTINE Community Library

It is thanks to the residents of Sugar Creek Township that county-wide library service came to Hancock County, Indiana. In 1985, few individuals would have thought that the formation of a small volunteer library would lead to changes in state laws making such a county library even possible. However, if one were to go back and ask those early volunteers exactly what they thought they were trying to accomplish, the library service of Hancock County today is more or less exactly it. In just over a decade, several name changes, and some near budget shortfalls, the Mary M. Nichols New Palestine Community Library became part of the Hancock County Public Library system that residents know today.

According to institutional history, in the summer of 1984, people in the community expressed a need for a public library and started to formulate plans to establish one. In early 1985 the New Palestine Community Library, Inc. (NPCL) formed. Early organizers included Phyllis Arthur, Linda Bond, Karen Harrell, and Shirley Rifner. The intended date for opening the library was September 1, 1985. Due to budget, labor, and supply constraints the opening of the library was pushed back until February, 1987. During this nearly two-year time frame, the group looked to secure adequate funding to accomplish their goals.

The primary objective of the volunteers was to secure an adequate location for the library. In 1985, the library was to be housed in the lower level of the Mary M. Nichols Building at 11 East Main Street in New Palestine. The building was to be leased by the New Palestine American Legion Post #182 for one dollar a year. In October 1986, the library secured a \$10,000 loan from New Palestine Bank to renovate the building into a more formal library setting and to purchase materials for the collection. The initial materials purchase was around 10,000 titles from the Indianapolis Public School system for \$500. By February 1987, the library was ready to open its doors.

The grand opening of the New Palestine Community Library was February 26, 1987. Phyllis Arthur, great granddaughter

of Mary M. Nichols and public relations spokesperson for the library, cut the ribbon at the ceremony. Access to the library was based on paid memberships. A family membership was \$10 per year. In the first year, a donation of at least \$50 secured the designation of "charter membership" and members received their name on a plaque. Money raised from memberships went to pay off the loan and operating costs. The library was open twenty-seven hours a week and was closed on Sunday, Monday, and Friday. Over the next months, volunteers continued to work to increase materials and better the library's situation.

In May 1987, the New Palestine High School senior class spent their community service day moving books into the library. By then, more than 20,000 titles had been purchased or donated to the new library. In September, the library held a dedication for the building. The building had originally been donated by Mary M. Nichols to the local American Legion Post #182 in 1934. In later years, the Legion leased the building to outside groups. The original desire of Nichols was to have the building given back to her heirs once the Legion had outgrown the building. When the library moved into the building, the Legion chose to relinquish its interest back to the Nichols heirs. The family chose to donate the property to the library. Grandchildren included Rachel and Kenneth Lantz, Mary Katherine and John Lantz, and Don Lantz. Great grandchildren included Janet Lantz Fortune, Max Lantz, Joann Lantz Beuoy, Marilyn Lantz Rhude, Charles Lee Lantz, and Phyllis Lantz Arthur. On September 12, the library held a dedication and was officially given charge of the property by the American Legion Post #182. A history of the building was compiled by the library board for the dedication of the library:

The current library building was built around the turn of the century. This two-story brick building replaced a small frame building. Harry C. Nichols, son of Reverend William and Sarah Nichols, built the current building. Nichols operated a general store in the building for several years.

The Mary M. Nichols Building as it stands in 2017. When the building was owned by the American Legion the eagle mural was painted on the building during the 1976 Bicentennial. In its library years, the mural read "Library." In 2015 the mural was restored by art teacher Clyde Gaw and students of the New Palestine High School National Art Honor Society. Today the building houses the New Palestine History Museum.



In 1910, Ellsworth Phares used the building for several years. Phares sold furniture, groceries, stoves, and dry goods. The New Palestine Post Office was also located in the building during this time.

For a short time, John Ashcraft had a grocery in the building. In 1934 Mary M. Nichols gave the New Palestine Legion Post #182 the right to use the building as long as the Legion Post existed. When the Legion no longer used the building it was to revert to the surviving great-grandchildren of Mary M. Nichols. The American Legion Post and the Legion Auxiliary actively used the building for many years.

In later years, the Legion leased the building to the New Palestine Kindergarten and many other small businesses. In 1985, the Legion leased the building to the Mary M. Nichols Community Library of New Palestine. The library was renovated and opened on February 22, 1987. The library board then approached the Legion and the great-grandchildren of Mary M. Nichols to see if they would be interested in donating the building to the library.

New Palestine Press, September 10, 1987

While the library was born of great moral support from the community, that desire to have a library in the community did not translate into what the library needed most; dependable and ongoing financial support.

In February 1988, the library board and volunteers began a long fight for financial support. The board voted to pursue tax-based funding to support the library. Unknown at the time to supporters, they would have to labor for over a decade to see lasting library funding come to Sugar Creek Township. In early 1989, the New Palestine Community Library looked to the Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library (FVTPL) to discuss a merger. There was hesitation on the part of Sugar Creek Township trustees about how levied taxes would be spent. One of the primary arguments against the plan was that FVTPL had a bond on their library building. If the merger were to take place, residents of Sugar Creek Township would effectively be paying off that township's loan. In a March 25, 1987 Daily Reporter article, FVTPL Director, Jean Bonner addressed the issue, "Historically that is what happens with mergers (the newly merged area aids in bond issue repayment). The new, combined district exists with new, combined assets and liabilities." The other concern for the trustees was the proposed tax rate. At the time, it was difficult to gauge what the rate would be. If a rate similar to FVTPL was used, Sugar Creek residents would have seen around a five-percent increase in property taxes. On April 11, any chance of a merger was sunk. At the NPCL board meeting it was discovered that the library was nearly bankrupt. This was in large part due to less than successful fundraising attempts and a membership drive that was cancelled due to the push for library merger. This lack of clear direction did not encourage people to purchase memberships.

Given the unknowns, Township Trustee Linda Bond stated in an April 11 article, "Our main concern is having library service here whether it be a county-wide or contractual, but with fair representation and an affordable tax rate." Without clear answers to these questions, the trustees could not move forward with the Vernon Township merger.

In the same month, the NPCL turned to the Greenfield Public Library (GPL) for possible interest in a merger. In an April 17 Indianapolis Star article, NPCL board president Donald L. Meyers made a plea for the library to become tax supported. Myers said, "Our volunteers are wearing out. There wasn't enough donations to take care of the facility let alone the acquisition of new material." With 520 members, the \$15 membership fee "barely cover[ed] utility bills." Unfortunately, there was little interest from GPL in taking on the volunteer library. GPL board member David Berard stated "I've seen no groundswell of support for extending our services." Ron Pritzke gave a more optimistic response stating, "There is no feeling, I believe, that the board opposes opening up our facilities to others. If a way can be found to fund such service, we'll be glad to open up for other residents of the county." Additionally mentioned, non-residents of Greenfield were able to purchase cards at an annual \$50 fee or at the FVTPL for \$35. It seems for the NPCL it would take more rallying of Sugar Creek residents to get library service.

In mid-1989 through 1990, the volunteers worked to get a referendum passed to make library service county-wide. By the end of April 1989, Indiana State Senator Beverly Gard and Representative Ray Richardson introduced a referendum for the 1990 May primary that allowed Hancock County residents to voice support for county-wide library service. While a step closer, it did little to secure immediate financial stability, because a positive vote for the referendum still meant any chance of financial security was over a year away (one year to wait for the vote and another six months until the 1991 budget year). If the referendum failed, it would be a year wasted for potential fundraising initiatives. In the meantime, the volunteers were still pursuing the Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library merger.

Hancock County Commissioners stated they would not pursue a county-wide library system until after the 1990 referendum. However, that did not stop the NPCL board from looking at other options. On May 15, 1989, the NPCL board voted unanimously to pursue a library merger with the Fortville-based library. The library would file its roughly 800-900 signatures that it gathered from Sugar Creek residents in March. An

opposing remonstrance petition would have to be filed within ten days. If the library's petition gathered more signatures, the county advisory board would agree to the merger. If the opposing petition had more signatures, the library's would be dismissed. In a May 16, 1990 Daily Reporter article, NPCL board president Donald Meyers explained the rationale for the vote, "If we would do this and become part of Fortville (library district) and Fortville decided not to go in with a county system, then we would not be part of it. But keep in mind, if we go with this petition and it fails because of a greater number of signature on a remonstrance, no further action can be taken for a year." In essence, the library board was hoping to double their chances that they would get tax backing one way or another. Library officials also insisted that regardless of the outcome, if the referendum passed, county-wide service would not be hindered if Sugar Creek chose to not participate. In protest against the library merger, New Palestine resident Francis Denton led the remonstrance petition. Sugar Creek Township Advisory Board Chairman Art Bullman and Wilbur Lance were additionally involved in the anti-library merger camp. The effort required more than 757 signatures from registered voters. On June 6, the remonstrators succeeded in their efforts to kill the merger by collecting the names of 814 registered voters and an additional 610 unverified signatures. The volunteer library would have to wait until the 1990 May primary referendum vote.

The initial fear after the merger failure was that support from the community would plummet. To their surprise, there was a surge in contributions. On February 4, 1990, the library dedicated a children's area in the memory of Dean Spitzer. Spitzer was a graduate of New Palestine High School's class of 1986. He was killed on January 28, 1989, in a car accident. His parents, Mike and Karen, provided the large donation that went toward the purchase of new shelving, furniture, and books. The library also saw donations from the Aid Association for Lutherans of Zion Lutheran Church in New Palestine at \$1,000 and from the New Palestine Chamber of Commerce at \$500. The NPCL also regularly took part in the local "Summerfest." Money raised from the Fun Run/Walk at the Summerfest went to support the library. Other fundraising initiatives like New Palestine Lions Club breakfasts brought in revenue. The general community also turned out to support the library with 165 family memberships added and enough new volunteers to start a weekly preschool story hour. All of this support helped the library to pay off its \$10,000 loan in October 1989 and to start investing in new materials and other projects.

This wave of new backing carried the library to the primary in May. At the May 1990 primary, there was a non-binding referendum question on the ballot: “Shall county-wide library services be established?” The volunteer library worked diligently to prove their case to the community. The proposed budget need for the library was:

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| TOTAL | \$99,700 |
| STAFF | \$40,900 |
| SUPPLIES, SERVICES, & CHARGES | \$3,200 |
| CAPITAL OUTLAYS FOR BUILDING | \$20,200 |
| IMPROVEMENTS | |
| PRINT & NONPRINT MATERIALS | \$35,400 |

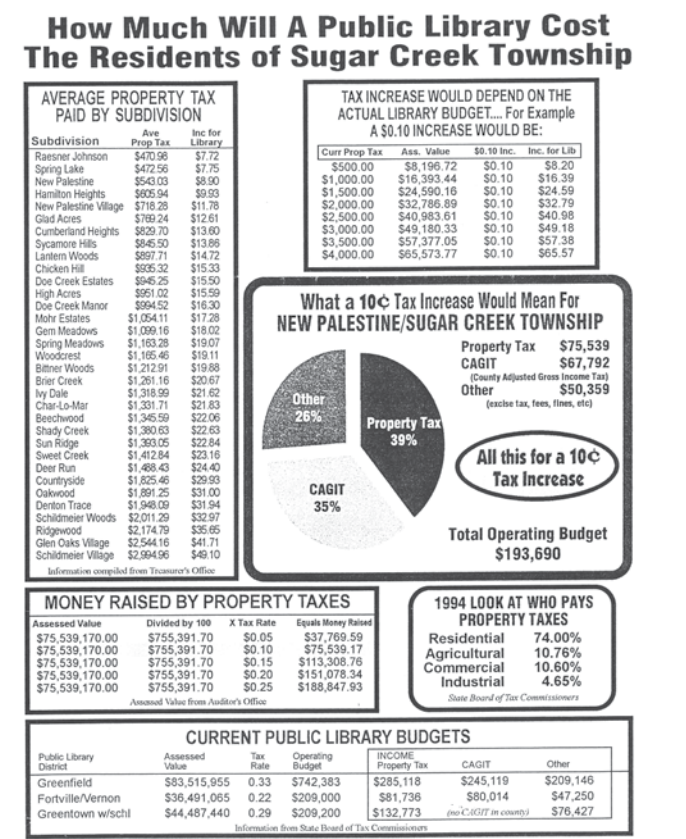
The budget was justified by a necessity to employ professional staff, rather than relying strictly on volunteers. Paid staff and more funding would allow for more programs of better quality. As new materials were just starting to be purchased in general, the library needed regular funding to provide a fresh variety of newly published media in the form of print, audiovisual, and software. Lastly, more funding would provide basic library services such as research databases, outreach to home-bound patrons, and interlibrary loan. As a reminder to the community, library supporters reiterated that only Vernon Township and Greenfield had library service. Another statistic frequently used was that 92.5% of Hoosiers as a whole had access to library service. While Hancock County was the fifth most affluent county in the state, sixty percent of its residents lacked library service. This proved to be entirely unacceptable to the community. When the referendum was held, it revealed that 76% of voters in Hancock County (6,147 out of 8,128) were in favor of county-wide public library service.

While the referendum was good news, various groups were slow to act. In June 1990, Greenfield Public Library representatives had yet to respond to a letter from the county commissioners. GPL was still researching the issue of board representation. FVTPL responded in favor of expanding service but did not agree that it should be done by contractual agreement. Another disruption to progress included a new director at FVTPL and the resignation of Greenfield Public Library Director, Cheri Wehlacz. At the Indiana State house, other measures were taken to further the volunteer library’s cause.

In January 1991, State Senator Beverly Gard introduced Senate Bill 271 to make the library merger process easier. The old laws required the districts to enter into a contract-based county library. After the contract was established the libraries could merge into a district.

With the new bill, the two districts would be able to merge immediately. There would also be a new multi-township expansion procedure when upon petition by the library board, county commissioners could approve expansions. While unanimously supported, the bill failed to be called for its third reading in the house.

Despite these letdowns, the library continued the fight. In 1995, the library developed a four-prong approach. The main points of attack were the township board, school board, the community, and petition drives. In addition to a more realistic breakdown of the potential costs, many of the same statistics were used from previous years. And despite a lack of vote by the Sugar Creek Township Board in June 1995, the library had an ally on the board. Trustee Linda Bond ran on a campaign that she would push for a library and used the referendum as justification for its need. The expected budget was now at a more realistic \$200,000. This meant that a ten-cent tax per \$100 of assessed value was expected. For an individual that had a tax bill of \$1,500, one would see an increase of \$25 for library services. As property tax issues seemed to be the main sticking point for many in the community, the library supporters began researching other funding options derived from taxes, such as CAGIT (County Adjusted Gross Income Tax).



One of the many flyers that volunteers at the New Palestine Community Library handed out in a push to get tax funded library service. This flyer is from around 1995.

In 1996, the county as a whole looked to investigate the issue of county-wide library service by forming a task group. In July, the NPCL board offered support to the task group in its mission of assessing the need and delivery of library service. In a July 25 Daily Reporter article, NPCL board member Marcia Parker stated, “Living down here in an unserved public library area, we think it’s way past time for a group to look at county-wide service. We applaud the effort of bringing groups of people together to discuss the issue.” During the initiative, 59 citizens collected signatures for a petition to establish a public library district in Sugar Creek Township. Organizers collected 1,404 signatures or 23.5 percent of the necessary 20 percent of area voters. Because there was no remonstrance petition, the township approved the resolution to create a district. The board consisted of: Harlan Smith, Karen Tarver, and Dawn Hahm appointed by the Southern Hancock School Board; Marlon Corwin and C. O. Montgomery appointed by the county council; and Paula Prange and Ellis Denton appointed by the county commissioners. In December 1996, the library held its first board meeting of the Sugar Creek Township Public Library (SCTPL).

Now that a library district was approved, more issues emerged. A new location for the library was being considered. Some believed the high school would be a more appropriate location for the district.

Additionally, the Indiana State Board of Tax Commissioners required the township to have at least 10,000 residents before a district could be established. The 1990 census reported 9,163 residents. In the past six years there were more than 700 housing starts. With an estimated three persons per house this more than met the population requirement. In August 1997, the State Board of Tax Commissioners voted to deny the SCTPL tax levy for the 1998 budget. Though no reason was provided, the maximum levy of \$167,777 was believed to be denied on the basis of the population requirement. The board voted 4-2 on September 4 to file an appeal with the state tax court. In addition to the appeal, resident Karen Egger filed a lawsuit claiming the township did not contain the 10,000 residents. Later on during the elections, Sugar Creek Township Advisory Board President Mac Crawford went so far as to nickname the anti-library opponents “Eggerites.” Estimated legal fees were a guaranteed \$1,600 and an estimated \$10,000 if the fight lingered on. A special census would cost \$45,000 and take more than a year to process. If all appeals failed, the library would have to wait until 2000 for another census to take place, at least three or more years. County-wide, advocates were having troubles of their own.

In December 1997, county commissioners rejected library expansion to rural Center Township and all of Green, Brown, Jackson, and Blue River Townships. The vote came as a surprise to most, with the Greenfield Public Library Board publicly expressing their disappointment. In a Daily Reporter article dated December 16, 1999, Commissioner Tim Plank cited the issue as taxation on farmers. “We have to wait to wait to see how New Palestine turns out before we do anything... I also didn’t like the effect raising property taxes would have on farmers. Assessed valuation does not take into consideration that cattle do not use a library.” While the situation still continued to appear bleak, county-wide service would be approved within eighteen months.

While not essential to the passage of county-wide service in Hancock County, Senate Bill 115 deserves mention. In April 1998, the bill was signed into law by Governor Frank O’Bannon. The bill was again authored by Republican State Senator Beverly Gard of Greenfield. Under the old law, a library district had to have a population of at least 10,000 people as based on the most recent census data. The new law would base the ability to fund a library not on population but rather on the assessed valuation of the district and potential revenue that could be raised to fund a library.

The law provided a formula for calculating the median assessed valuation of ten similar library districts. Based on that figure, the district could better determine whether a library could be formed. The law also allowed libraries to issue non-resident loaner or user cards to students of local school systems at a reduced price. Cards had previously been offered to students, but the practice ended just months prior when the Hancock County Commissioners voted against the expansion of library services to outlying areas. Unfortunately, for the New Palestine Community Library, the law came too late. Going into effect July 1, 1998, the law only covered districts that formed after that date. As mentioned, if the state tax court appeals process failed, then NPCL would have to wait until after the 2000 census in order to try again for library service.

On November 10, 1998, the Greenfield Public Library Board voted unanimously to annex Sugar Creek Township into its taxing district. The Sugar Creek Advisory Board would then meet for discussions with the two libraries on November 17 and then vote on November 23 to establish the library service. In the November 11 Daily Reporter article, Sugar Creek Advisory Board Member Mac Crawford said, “If you’re committed to education, libraries are a no-brainer. To me, the remonstrance was done at the election. And just look at the scoreboard - 64 percent.” The 64 percent referred to Crawford’s vote tally versus his opponent Karen Egger’s 36 percent.

Regarding the details of the arrangement, the budget would be close to the proposed 1997 maximum levy of \$167,777. Due to budgeting timelines, Sugar Creek residents would not begin to pay for service until mid-2000. The library would see an increase of 9,000 potential patrons or seventy-nine percent. This increase would require the main Greenfield branch to explore expansion plans as well as relocation for the Sugar Creek Branch. GPL would also add three workers, and NPCL would gain two full-time and two part-time employees. The tax rate for 2000 was 24 cents per \$100 and would rise to 25 cents in 2001. The storm clouds had finally started to lift for Hancock County, but it would take one final piece of legislation to make county-wide service a reality.

In February 1999, Bill 166 passed the Senate. Again sponsored by Beverly Gard, the library-centered bill sought to allow communities to seek new funding routes. Previously libraries were largely funded through property tax. The bill would create the option to use income tax revenues. These funds are known as County Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT) credits. The bill was considered the “brainchild” of Hancock County Commissioner Armin Apple. CEDIT had generally been used to finance economic development and capital improvement projects, but Bill 166 would allow up to 0.15 percent of local income taxes to replace the standard property tax. Gard was not exactly optimistic at first, in a 2017 interview she said, “I thought, the legislature is never going to approve this.”

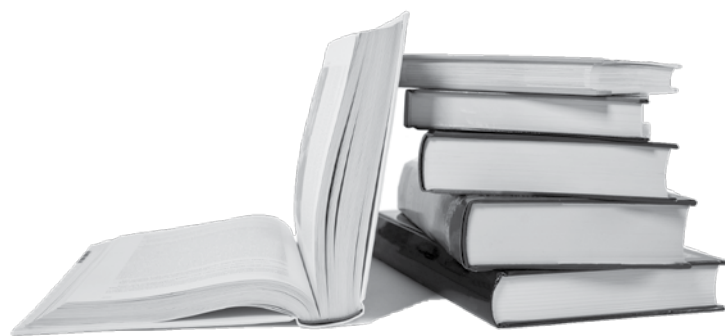
Despite this initial thought, Gard worked with the state’s Legislative Services Agency to write the bill. She showed that the 0.15 percent CEDIT could fund or nearly fund the entire budget of the library. The bill required all residents to be in a library district, all libraries to have reciprocal book borrowing agreements, and the county council to adopt the CEDIT credits for library property tax replacement. At the time, the Hancock County Council was looking to raise the property tax to about 26 cents per \$100 of assessed value in 1997. This change allowed for the library to be funded through multiple avenues and did not put unnecessary strain on property owners, which had been a sticking point in expanding library service in Hancock County previously. With the bill’s eventual passing, the county made moves to utilize these unused CEDIT credits.

In February 1999, the county council officially gave initial approval to the tax option. State Representative for Greenfield Bob Cherry also lent his support of the bill in the Indiana House of Representatives. In a February 5, 1989 Daily Reporter article, GPL Director Susan Waggoner stated, “We’re very

excited. We want to be part of this experiment. If we can serve all the residents of Hancock County without raising their property taxes, we’re all for it. The general mood in Indiana now is to cut property taxes. We want to be a part of that too.” By May 1999, the hard work of the volunteers, politicians, and citizens across the county paid off.

The “Greenfield-Sugar Creek Public Library” changed its name on May 11 to the “Hancock County Public Library.” The previous day, county-wide service officially began when the Hancock County Commissioners voted 2-1 to create a county library taxing district. On May 12, the Hancock County Council voted unanimously to enact the CEDIT levy. For local politicians like State Senator Beverly Gard, County Commissioner Armin Apple, Commissioner Tim Plank, Councilman Bill Bolander, they all agreed the bill was the right solution to make library funding more equitable and reduced the burden on farmers, businesses, large landholders, and property taxpayers in the already established library districts of Greenfield, Sugar Creek, and Vernon Township. The original Greenfield Public Library was serving about 12,000 people; with the addition of Sugar Creek Township that number increased by 11,000. Once county-wide service (minus Vernon Township) was enacted the library district would now serve over 40,000 residents.

Fifteen years might not sound like much, but they encompass the once enduring struggle of a small town’s fight to get a library. For some Sugar Creek Township residents in the late 1980s, the modest volunteer library was the limit of expectations for the area. Fortunately, those individuals were wrong. From leading storytimes to pounding the pavement for support, it would take countless hours and great persistence on the part of volunteers, politicians, and residents to see library service come to Sugar Creek Township. Without the volunteers of the New Palestine Community Library, it is doubtful county-wide service would exist today.



A HISTORY OF THE

Friends of the Library

Friends groups of all shapes and sizes had existed elsewhere in the country, but it was not until 1979 that one formed in Greenfield, Indiana. Recognizing a need for increased community involvement, the public approached the library board and director to create a friends of the library group. The group formed as a response for increased public involvement and as the library made plans to expand or move from the Carnegie location. In an August 28, 1979 Daily Reporter article Library Director, Cheri Wehlacz said, “The value of such an organization for Greenfield has become apparent to some of our patrons as the board begins making plans for a new library building.”

The intended goal of the Friends was to support the library in the form of volunteer and financial assistance and to foster public interest in the library. The formation of the group originated as an outlet for the public to play a role in the eventual move from the Carnegie Library location to the yet unplanned Broadway St. Street location. At the February 1979 library board meeting, the board first considered the establishment of a friends group. This meeting also included the approval of a feasibility study for a new library building. The study would include a professional assessment of community needs and suggestions on meeting those needs through a new library. In September, the library feasibility study concluded. Park Randall of the architectural firm Pecsok, Jelliffe, and Randall presented their firm’s findings to the board. More importantly for the establishment of the Friends, Randall stressed that public inclusion was essential to funding the new library. Having worked with libraries in the past, Randall provided a warning to the board that the firm had seen shortfalls in public support as a major hindrance to previous public library construction projects. The board took these recommendations to heart and expected the Friends to be involved in creating public presentations on the project.

On August 30, 1979, the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library, Inc. held their first meeting. During the meeting organizers elected officers and established the bylaws committee. The temporary officers of the Friends were as follows: Pat Geile, president; Susan Billings, treasurer; and Ruth Rihm, secretary. The bylaws committee included Glenna Dudley, Robert Bogiggian, and Mary Cross, then president of the Greenfield Public Library Board. The steering committee met on September 11 to act on the proposed bylaws. The first general membership meeting was held a month later on October 10. At the meeting, the group addressed the needs of the new library building. The group cited parking, building efficiency, and shelf space as top concerns. The group also re-elected the 1979 temporary officers for the 1980 board. In the first years of activity, the Friends would establish themselves as an essential part of the Greenfield Public Library operation. One such step in early organizing was marketing the group to the public.

As a new organization, the Friends hoped to brand themselves early on. In 1979, they held a logo design contest. The contest’s prize was a lifetime membership to the group. The winning logo featured a young boy and girl holding hands while carrying books. Around them was the text “Greenfield Public Library” which was later changed to just “Friends.” The Roger Hall family of Greenfield submitted the logo with Sandra Hall designing it. Another advocacy and marketing tool was the quarterly newsletter. Issue number one of “Off the Shelf” was printed in April 1980. The newsletter was sent to members and included club information, library news, and various musings from members. The first and longtime editor was Charles “Pat” Geile. Betty Ott took over the editorial role in 1987. Judging by organizational records, the newsletter ceased publication in the mid-1990s. In June 1999, the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library became the Friends of the Hancock County Public Library, Inc. This was a result of the change to county-wide service. This branding and early public engagement created a strong foundation for a healthy membership.

Like today, membership was structured at various levels. In 1979, memberships started for as little as one dollar.

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| \$1 PAL (STUDENT) | \$2 FRIEND |
| \$10 SUSTAINING | \$25 PATRON |
| \$50 CORPORATE | \$500 LIFETIME MEMBER |

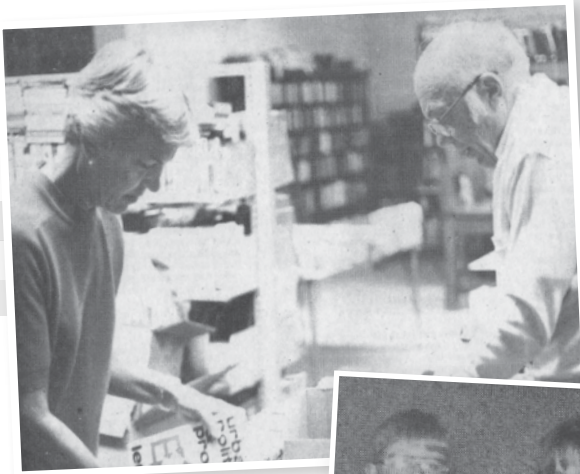
Each paid member, except for those at the Pal level, was able to attend meetings and vote for officers. Membership dues went directly to buying library equipment and other wishlist items that were not written into the library budget. Membership dues have increased modestly over the years. As of 2017, they are:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| \$15 INDIVIDUAL | \$25 FAMILY |
| \$50 PATRON | \$100-199 CORPORATE |

Memberships renew on a yearly basis from the date of application. When the group began, the primary benefit to joining the group were involvement and knowing one’s money was going to a good cause. As the years progressed, membership began to include more perks. In 1988, the Friends members at the \$15 level were able to pre-register for children’s programs. This benefit does not exist today. Beginning in 1992 members were able to order books, compact discs and videos from the library vendor Baker & Taylor at a discount. This service is still offered today. A more recent perk is the “members-only” preview sale where members get early access to Friends sales before the general public. Membership in the Friends was largely geared for adults, but the Friends formed a Junior Friends group for younger patrons to get involved at the library.



The Friends of the Library logo from the mid-1980s. The logo was originally designed by Sandra Hall in 1979 as part of a contest. The Roger Hall family won a lifetime membership to the group.
Image courtesy of the Friends of the Library.



Friends of the Library members Ruth Rihm and Charles Geile sort through books in preparation for the first book sale held on October 10, 1979.

Staff photo. “Memberships Available for Friends of Library.” *The Daily Reporter* (Greenfield: IN), October 1, 1979



Newly elected Junior Friends officers for the 1988-1989 school year. From left to right are President Matt Spolyar, Treasurer Susan Reeves, and Secretary Heather Lucas. “Library Plans Summer Tours Open to Public.” *The Daily Reporter* (Greenfield: IN), June 1, 1988.roup. Image courtesy of the Friends of the Library.

At the first meeting there were twelve charter members. By the second meeting thirty-seven children were in attendance. Officers for the first year were: Chris Spolyar, president; Jennifer Porter, secretary; and Karyn Roe, treasurer. Children’s librarian Carol McMichael and Friends member Sherry Huter helped to form the group and supervise activities. The first activity for the group was selling handmade badges during National Library Week. The purpose of the badge was to promote the use of the library. Each badge sold for fifty cents with the proceeds going towards group activities. Other events included visits by children’s authors, parties and socials, a Junior Friends book sale in October, and a paperback book exchange in November during Children’s Book Week. There is no exact date for when the Junior Friends disbanded, but newspapers suggest sometime around 1993.

In addition to membership, the second method of fundraising for the Friends has always been the book sale. The first Friends Sale was held on October 6, 1979, and was located in the basement of the library. Most books were sold for five to ten cents. Early sales were annual events and held during the Riley Days festivities. In 1984, the Friends did not hold the annual book sale due to the transition from the Carnegie to the Broadway St. location. To make up for the lost revenue, a spring sale was held the following year. Given the sale’s success, at a February 1986 meeting the board briefly flirted with holding two sales a year. The measure was not approved and the traditional yearly Riley Days sale continued alone.

However, 1986 did see the implementation of the continuing sale, sometimes called the book cart sale. After each Riley Days sale, unpurchased materials were sold near the main desk at the library. By this time, hard covers sold for a dollar and soft covers were fifty cents. The sales from the book cart helped to bring in additional money throughout the year. Today, the Friends have a dedicated area at the front of the library for these continuing sales. Possibly due to the extra revenue from the book cart sales or a lack of storage space from increased donations, in 1988 the Friends’ opinions shifted from the lone annual sale and a spring sale was established. The first spring sale was held in March 1988. In 1989, the Friends said goodbye to the Riley Days sale and rechristened it the Fall Book Sale. The fall sale generally took place in October or November. Today, the group generally holds quarterly sales throughout the year as well as donation days monthly.

The funds raised throughout the year have been devoted to many library projects and programs since the Friends formed. One such early philanthropic project was the creation of the Annual College Book Award. This monetary award was given to a deserving high school senior or recent graduate. The money went towards the purchase of textbooks, fees, and equipment charges. Eligibility required the student to have graduated in the previous twelve months, live in Hancock County, be an active Greenfield Public Library cardholder, and have at least a “B” average. The annual award began in 1984 at \$100 and was later increased to \$500 in 1991. The following individuals received the award:

- 1984 - LAURA ANN DAVIS
- 1985 - BRETT CALDWELL
- 1986 - TERESA BERG
- 1987 - JUDY HAUKE
- 1988 - LORI REICHENBACH & HEATHER ROACH
- 1990 - JENNIFER ZAPP
- 1991 - JEFFREY BROOME
- 1992 - AARON PAUL
- 1993 - SUJAY KAUSHAL
- 1994 - CORINNE ROBERTS
- 1995 - ANGELA MARIE COWAN
- 1996 - TOM OSBORNE & ERIN HUDSON
- 1997 - KAREN K. CARDER

With the rapid increase in technology during the early 1990s, the Friends of the Library was instrumental in the library staying abreast of the trends by purchasing technology for the library. In 1992, the group purchased a Macintosh computer

for the Children’s Department at a cost of \$2,363. The Friends purchased a second Macintosh computer in 1994. This purchase brought the computer count to three adult computers and one for children’s use. Later in the year, a CD-ROM workstation for public use was purchased and placed in the reference area. In 1998 the Friends purchased a Compaq laptop for library staff to use. The cost was \$2,900. In addition to technology, the group put their funds toward other projects.

Throughout its history, the Friends of the Library has continuously provided funding to arts and entertainment ventures. In particular, the Friends is known for bringing in outside lecturers, authors, and hosting concerts. One of the most well-known projects they were involved with was the installation of the traveling history exhibit “Beyond Category: The Musical Genius of Duke Ellington.” It was organized and funded by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the American Library Association. The exhibit chronicled the life of Edward Kennedy “Duke” Ellington (1899-1974) and the jazz era. It was on display from May 2 to June 15, 1996. Several jazz-themed events occurred while the display was in Greenfield. One such event was the Ellington Gala on May 4, 1996. The Friends provided \$2,165, which went to pay for the Carl Hines Quartet with vocalist Monica Cantrell, and also food, piano rental, invitations, and decorations.

The Friends has been involved with other various philanthropic endeavors throughout its existence. In 1985, the Friends provided funding for the restoration of the art piece “Street Scene in Algiers.” The painting was the work of local early twentieth-century artist, Richard Brown Black. The piece was originally donated to the Greenfield Public Library in 1915 by resident Lizzie Harris. The piece now hangs in the local history room. In 1994, the Friends donated two steel benches that were installed under the canopy at the Broadway St. location. Additionally, the group purchased shelving units for the paperback collection and a mobile rack for newspapers. In 2004, the Friends allocated nearly \$2,000 to support a book-themed radio hour on Greenfield-Central High School’s radio station 87.9 FM. The program discussed books and happenings at the library. It was not renewed for 2005. When the McKenzie location was built, the Friends allocated \$10,000 to purchase a fish tank for the children’s area. They also set aside \$2,400 yearly for annual maintenance and upkeep. For the new building, the Friends also purchased a water cooler for the staff break room and have continued to pay for water delivery. To help support the library staff and board, they still continue the tradition of preparing a “Thank You” meal once a year.

Since 1979 the Friends of the Library has served a vital role in the Greenfield and Hancock County community. The organization has succeeded in its original goal of increasing involvement in the public library and has been a major partner in both library relocations. Countless programs have entertained and informed people of all ages and backgrounds. The Friends’ support has been invaluable.

Friends of the Library members sorting books for a sale sometime in the mid-1980s. From left to right are Marianne Wright, Nancy Reilly, and Nancy King.
Image courtesy of the Friends of the Library.



Friends of the Library member Chris Murphy receives help from library assistant Janet Wissman in hanging tote bags for a display. A \$15 Friends membership included a free tote, a coupon for money off a purchase, and a quarterly newsletter. The totes were also sold individually to raise funds for the group.
Haley, Thomacine. “Busy Friends.” The Daily Reporter (Greenfield: IN), March 19, 1987.

APPENDIX A: DIRECTORS FOR THE GREENFIELD & HANCOCK COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

| NAME | TITLE | DATES OF TENURE |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| MINNIE HUGHES | LIBRARIAN | 1898 - 1901 |
| MANIE HANDY | LIBRARIAN | MARCH 1901 - 1907 |
| CATHERINE “KATE” POULSON | LIBRARIAN | 1 MARCH 1907 - AUGUST 1918 |
| VERNIE BALDWIN | LIBRARIAN | AUGUST 1918 - 1 JUNE 1959 |
| CATHERINE “AMY” RONEY | LIBRARIAN | 1 JUNE 1959 - 1 JULY 1977 |
| CHERILYN ANDERSON | DIRECTOR, WEHLACZ | 2 JULY 1977 - 25 JUNE 1991 |
| ELIZABETH “LIBBY” SHEETS | ACTING DIRECTOR | JUNE - NOVEMBER 1991 |
| JOHN MCCONAGHA | DIRECTOR | 19 NOVEMBER 1991 - 24 JUNE 1994 |
| ELIZABETH “LIBBY” SHEETS | ACTING DIRECTOR | JUNE - NOVEMBER 1994 |
| SUSAN M. WAGGONER | DIRECTOR | 1 DECEMBER 1994 - 26 SEPTEMBER 2000 |
| DIANNE OSBORNE | DIRECTOR | 10 NOVEMBER 2000 - 30 APRIL 2013 |
| DAVID GRAY | DIRECTOR | 1 MAY 2013 - PRESENT |

APPENDIX B: LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FOR THE GREENFIELD & HANCOCK COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Composition of the Library Board

At the beginning of Greenfield Library’s history, the library was housed in the Greenfield High School building and was under the direction of the three member school board. It was changed and “reorganized under the general law of 1901.”

In 1917, the library became independent from the school. At this time, the library was organized under the Library Law of 1910. A nine member board was in place. The Judge of the Circuit Court, the Greenfield School Board, and the City Council each appointed 3 members. The Center Township Trustee also served on the board due to the agreement between Center Township and the library to serve township residents. Terms were 2 years in length.

This board was in place for many years, although the Township Trustee was not always on the board, depending on the funding agreement between the library and the township. A change came about due to the rise in population which changed Greenfield Public Library to a library in a city with population over 5,000 and a lower tax levy cap. According to the 1950 Census, the population of Greenfield was 6,159. Under the Library Law of 1947, the higher tax levy could be maintained if the conversion was made. On May 12, 1952, the library board adopted the Library Law of 1947. According to this law, the board was composed of 7 appointed members: 3 by the Judge of the Circuit Court, 2 by the School Board, and 2 by the City Council. The law also provided that a person must have been a resident of the library district for at least two years, staggered appointment terms, and that “at least one member appointed by each appointing authority shall be a woman.” All terms were 4 years in length. The purpose was to

provide for more continuous governing with fewer members replaced each year. If the township contracted with the library for service, the Judge of the Circuit Court had the option to appoint a township member.

The appointing bodies of the 7 member board remained in place until 1985. As board terms expired, the new appointees were as follows: 2 members by the Greenfield-Central School Board, 1 member each by the mayor, city council, county council and county commissioners. The remaining member was appointed in rotation by the other county school districts: Eastern Hancock Schools, Mount Vernon Community Schools, Community School Corporation of Southern Hancock County. Library law limited consecutive terms to four and the maximum time a person could serve on the board was 16 years.

On November 11, 1998, Sugar Creek Township was added to the library district.

When county-wide service was approved in May 1999, the library became the Hancock County Public Library and the makeup of the board changed again. As terms expired, the new appointing agencies appointed members. One member was appointed by the following governmental agencies: Hancock County Council, Greenfield City Council, Hancock County Commissioners, Greenfield-Central School Corporation, Community School Corporation of Southern Hancock County, Mount Vernon Community Schools and Eastern Hancock Community Schools. By 2004, the change was completed and the board members continue to be appointed by these agencies.

| BOARD MEMBER | YEAR FIRST APPOINTED | BOARD MEMBER | YEAR FIRST APPOINTED |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| AMICK, JO ANN | 1992 | LARRABEE, FRANK | 1917 |
| ANDREWS, ELMER | 1917 | LOWE, DR. T. E. | 1911 |
| BARTNICK, MARGARET S. | 1979 | LOWE, MABLE | 1918 |
| BEAGLE, HERSHALL | 1947 | MANSHIP, LIBBY | 2015 |
| BERARD, DAVID | 1988 | MASON, R. L. | 1917 |
| BINFORD, DR. B. S. | 1921 | MASON, R. L. (JUDGE) | 1927 |
| BLACK, CLARA | 1921 | MESSERLIE,GORDON | 1953 |
| BOYD, MRS. GLENN | 1953 | MYERHOLTZ, RALPH | 1996 |
| BROOKS, MRS. J. H. | 1927 | MITCHELL, JOHN F. | 1944 |
| BROOKS, MRS. JOHN | 1921 | MOHR, JOE | 2006 |
| BUSSELL, LENORA (MRS. WM. E) | 1926 | MORELOCK, GREGG | 1994 |
| CLARK, DR. TIMOTHY G. | 1980 | MORGAN, FRANK | 1913 |
| COOPER, GEO. H. | 1910 | MORRISON, BARBARA | 1965 |
| COOPER, MRS. GEO. H. | 1917 | MURPHY, DAVID | 1995 |
| COPELAND, MARK | 2005 | MYERHOLTZ, RALPH | 1998 |
| CROSS, MARY | 1976 | NEW, JACK | 1980 |
| CURRY, MRS. LUCIAN | 1926 | OFFUTT, SAM J. | 1910 |
| DAVIS, GEORGE B. | 1952 | ORR, MRS. KENNETH | 1949 |
| DAVIS, HARRY | 1951 | ORR, THELMA | 1963 |
| DETTWILER, SUZANNE | 1989 | PF AFF, JANE (MARJANIA K.) | 1998 |
| DOWNING, LEAH K. | 1962 | PICKETT, MRS. DONALD J. | 1923 |
| DOWNING, MRS. ARTHUR | 1953 | PRATT, MRS. ED | 1926 |
| DUDLEY, IVAN | 1950 | PRATT, MRS. E. W. | 1937 |
| EDWARDS, SUSAN | 2011 | PRITZKE, PEGGY (MARGARET) | 2007 |
| ELLIS, PERCY | 1932 | PRITZKE, RONALD | 1980 |
| ELMORE, LORI | 2017 | RAMIREZ, LINDA | 1994 |
| EMMERSON, DR. JOHN | 1979 | REEVES, ROBERT | 1917 |
| FLEMING, DARRELL | 1945 | RICHMAN, GEORGE J. | 1917 |
| FLEMING, DONALD | 1939 | RIEGLE, RICHARD | 1989 |
| FREE, STEPHEN A. | 1953 | RIHM, RUTH | 1966 |
| FROST, ADA | 1948 | ROBERTS, JEANNIE | 1998 |
| FRY, JOHN | 1923 | ROBERTS, DAVID | 2017 |
| GABRIELSEN, DR. TED | 2001 | ROBERTS, MRS. HOWARD | 1917 |
| GARD, BEVERLY (SENATOR) | 2001 | ROTTMAN, ALFRED | 1913 |
| GEILE, CHARLES | 1982 | SENG, THOMAS | 2015 |
| GEILE, MRS. CHARLES | 1951 | SMITH, HARLAN | 2002 |
| HAINES, PEARLANN | 1979 | SMITH, Z.M. | 1932 |
| HARRELL, J. E. | 1911 | STRICKLAND, MADGE | 1966 |
| HARRELL, J. H. | 1910 | TAPSCOTT, MRS. RALPH | 1949 |
| HARRELL, J. W. | 1908 | TARWATER, REED | 2014 |
| HARRIS, LIZZIE | 1917 | TEMPLE, RUFUS | 1917 |
| HOCHSTEDLER, DANA | 2003 | THOMAS, H. L. | 1911 |
| HOFFMAN, DR. DONALD G. | 1982 | TINDALL, CHARLES | 1917 |
| HUFFORD, JOHN | 1926 | WILLIAMS, THOMAS | 1950 |
| HUGHES, NELLE | 1921 | WILLIAMSON, RUTH | 1950 |
| HUGHES, MRS. WILLIAM | 1924 | WILLOUGHBY, BETH | 1991 |
| HUNT, MARY LOU | 1987 | WINSLOW, MARSHALL | 1929 |
| IMES, LOREN | 1998 | ZIMMERMAN, LINDA | 1992 |
| LANDES, JAMES | 1995 | | |

YEAR BY YEAR LISTING OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

DESCRIPTIONS
OF ABBREVIATIONS

POSITION
P - PRESIDENT
S - SECRETARY

VP - VICE PRESIDENT
T - TREASURER

APPOINTING BODY
CSCSHC - COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
OF SOUTHERN HANCOCK COUNTY
CTT - CENTER TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE
EHS - EASTERN HANCOCK SCHOOLS
GCC - GREENFIELD CITY/COMMON COUNCIL
GCCSC - GREENFIELD-CENTRAL CONSOLIDATED
SCHOOL CORPORATION
HCC - HANCOCK COUNTY COUNCIL
HCCOM - HANCOCK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JCC - JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT
MVCS - MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
TWP. - TOWNSHIP

| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1908 | J. W. HARRELL | P | - | - |
| 07/31/10 | J. H. HARRELL | - | - | - |
| | GEO H. COOPER | - | - | - |
| | SAM. J. OFFUTT | - | - | - |
| 12/31/11 | J. E. HARRELL | P | - | - |
| | DR. T. E. LOWE | S | - | - |
| | H. L. THOMAS | T | - | - |
| 12/31/13 | DR. T. E. LOWE | P | - | - |
| | ALFRED ROTTMAN | T | - | - |
| | FRANK MORGAN | S | - | - |
| 07/31/17 | JUDGE R.L. MASON | P | - | - |
| | FRANK MORGAN | S | - | - |
| | CHARLES TINDALL | T | - | - |
| 06/01/17 | W. A. HOUGH | P | - | - |
| | GEO. RICHMAN | VP | - | - |
| | MISS LIZZIE HARRISS | CENTER TWP | - | - |
| | MRS. GEO. H. COOPER | - | - | - |
| | MRS. HOWARD ROBERTS | - | - | - |
| | FRANK LARRABEE | - | - | - |
| | ELMER ANDREWS | - | - | - |
| | ROBERT REEVES | - | - | - |
| | MR. TEMPLE | CTT | - | - |
| | GEO. RICHMAN | COUNTY SUPT. | - | - |
| 06/30/18 | WM. A. HOUGH | P | - | - |
| | FRANK LARRABEE | VP | - | - |
| | LIZZIE HARRIS | S | - | - |
| | MRS. HOWARD ROBERTS | - | - | - |
| | MRS. MABLE LOWE | - | - | - |
| | ELMER ANDREWS | - | - | - |
| | ROBERT REEVES | - | - | - |
| | RUFUS TEMPLE | TWP. TRUSTEE | - | - |
| | GEORGE J. RICHMAN | TWP. MEMBER | - | - |
| 06/30/19 | WM. A. HOUGH | VP | - | - |
| | FRANK LARRABEE | P | - | - |
| | LIZZIE HARRIS | - | - | - |
| | MRS. HOWARD ROBERTS | - | - | - |
| | MRS. MABLE LOWE | S | - | - |
| | ELMER ANDREWS | - | - | - |
| | ROBERT REEVES | - | - | - |
| | RUFUS TEMPLE | TWP. TRUSTEE | - | - |
| | GEORGE J. RICHMAN | TWP. MEMBER | - | - |

| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|---|-----------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| 06/30/20 | WM. A. HOUGH | - | - | - |
| | FRANK LARRABEE | - | - | - |
| | LIZZIE HARRIS | VP | - | - |
| | MRS. HOWARD ROBERTS | S | - | - |
| | MRS. MABLE LOWE | - | - | - |
| | ELMER ANDREWS | - | - | - |
| | ROBERT REEVES | - | - | - |
| | RUFUS TEMPLE | P | TWP. TRUSTEE | - |
| | GEORGE J. RICHMAN | - | TWP. MEMBER | - |
| 06/30/21 | RUFUS TEMPLE | P | TWP. TRUSTEE | - |
| | LIZZIE HARRIS | VP | - | - |
| | MRS.JOHN BROOKS | S | TWP. MEMBER | - |
| | WILL HOUGH | - | - | - |
| | FRANK LARRABEE | - | - | - |
| | ROBERT REEVES | - | - | - |
| | DR. BINFORD | - | - | - |
| | MRS. NELLE HUGHES | - | - | - |
| | MRS. DR. BLACK (SIC) | - | - | - |
| 06/30/22 | RUFUS TEMPLE | P | TWP. TRUSTEE | - |
| | LIZZIE HARRIS | VP | - | - |
| | MRS. JOHN BROOKS | S | TWP. MEMBER | - |
| | WM. HOUGH | - | - | - |
| | FRANK LARRABEE | - | - | - |
| | ROBERT REEVES | - | - | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | - | - |
| | MRS. NELLE HUGHES | - | - | - |
| | MRS. CLARA BLACK | - | - | - |
| 06/30/23 | DR. B. S. BINFORD | P | - | - |
| | MRS.CLARA BLACK | VP | - | - |
| | MRS. JOHN BROOKS | S | TWP. MEMBER | - |
| | WM.HOUGH | - | - | - |
| | FRANK LARRABEE | - | - | - |
| | ROBERT REEVES | - | - | - |
| | MRS. NELL(SIC) HUGHES | - | - | - |
| | MRS. DON PICKETT | - | - | - |
| | JOHN FRY | - | TWP. TRUSTEE | - |
| 06/30/24 | DR. B. S. BINFORD | P | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. CLARA BLACK | VP | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. JOHN BROOKS | S | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. WILLIAM HUGHES | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. DON PICKETT | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | FRANK LARRABEE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | WILLIAM HOUGH | - | JUDGE | - |
| | ROBERT REEVES | - | JUDGE | - |
| | JOHN FRY | - | TWP. TRUSTEE | - |
| NOTE: ALL TERMS THIS YEAR EXPIRE IN 2 YEARS | | | | |
| 06/30/25 | NO LIST | | | |
| 06/30/26 | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | P | - | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | VP | - | - |
| | MRS. LENORA BUSSELL | S | - | - |
| | MRS. DONALD PICKETT | - | - | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | - | - |
| | MRS. ED PRATT | - | - | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | - | - |
| | JOHN HUFFORD | - | - | - |
| | JOHN FRY | - | TWP. TRUSTEE | - |

| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|--|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| 06/30/27 | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | P | - | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | VP | - | - |
| | MRS. LENORA BUSSELL | S | - | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | - | - |
| | MR. HUFFORD | - | - | - |
| | MR. MCCLARON(SIC) | - | - | - |
| | MRS. D. J. PICKETT | - | - | - |
| | MRS. ED PRATT | - | - | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | - | - |
| 1928 | NO LIST | | | |
| 1929 | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | P | JUDGE | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | VP | JUDGE | - |
| MRS. W. E. BUSSELLS | | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. DONALD. PICKETT | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. ED PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MR. MCCLARNON | CTT | - | - |
| 1930 | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | P | JUDGE | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | VP | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | S | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. DONALD. PICKETT | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. ED PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MR. MCCLARNON | CTT | - | - |
| 1931 | MRS. ED PRATT | P | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | VP | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. DONALD PICKETT | S | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | JUDGE | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MR. MCCLARNON | CTT | - | - |
| 1932 | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | P | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH VP | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | S | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. ED PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | Z.M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | JUDGE | - |
| NOTE: ALL TERMS THIS YEAR EXPIRE IN 2 YEARS, MEETINGS HELD FIRST MONDAY NIGHT OF MONTH | | | | |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | PERCY ELLIS | CTT | - | - |
| 1933 | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | P | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH VP | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | S | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. ED PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | Z.M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | PERCY ELLIS | CTT | - | - |
| 1934 | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | P | CITY COUNCIL | - |

| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | VP | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | S | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. ED PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | PERCY ELLIS | CTT | - | - |
| 1935 | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | P | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | VP | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | S | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. ED PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | PERCY ELLIS | CTT | - | - |
| 1936 | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | P | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | VP | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | S | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. ED PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | PERCY ELLIS | CTT | - | - |
| 1937 | Z. M. SMITH P | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. E. W. PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | PERCY ELLIS | CTT | - | - |
| 1938 | Z. M. SMITH | P | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. E. W. PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| 1939 | Z. M. SMITH | P | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. E. W. PRATT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | DONALD FLEMING | CTT | - | - |
| 1940 | Z. M. SMITH | P | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |

| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES | REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1941 | MRS. E. W. PRATT | - | JUDGE | - | 1948 | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | DR. B. S. BINFORD | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | DONALD FLEMING | - | CTT | - | | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | P | JUDGE | - | | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | JOHN F. MITCHELL | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | VACANT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | HERSHALL BEAGLE | CTT | - | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | P | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| 1942 | DONALD FLEMING | - | CTT | - | 1949 | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | P | JUDGE | - | | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | JOHN F. MITCHELL | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | MRS. ADA FROST | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. E. W. PRATT | - | JUDGE | - | | HERSHALL BEAGLE | - | CTT | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | JOHN F. MITCHELL | P | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | DONALD FLEMING | - | CTT | - | | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | P | JUDGE | - | | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| 1943 | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - | 1950 | MRS. RALPH TAPSCOTT | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | VACANT | | | | | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | MRS. ADA FROST | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | VACANT | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. E. W. PRATT | - | JUDGE | - | | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | TOM WILLIAMS | - | JUDGE | - |
| | DONALD FLEMING | - | CTT | - | | HERSHALL BEAGLE | CTT | - | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | P | JUDGE | - | | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MRS. ADAH(SIC) FROST | S | JUDGE | - |
| 1944 | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | 1951 | MR. THOMAS WILLIAMS | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JUDGE | 3 YEARS FROM NOV. |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | MARSHALL WINSLOW | VP | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. E. W. PRATT | - | JUDGE | - | | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | P | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | JOHN F. MITCHELL | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MRS. RALPH TAPSCOTT | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | DONALD FLEMING | CTT | - | - | | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | P | JUDGE | - | | HERSHALL BEAGLE | CTT | - | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | JUDGE | - |
| | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MR. THOMAS WILLIAMS | - | JUDGE | - |
| 1945 | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | 1952 | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JUDGE | - |
| | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | P | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. E. W. PRATT | - | JUDGE | - | | MARSHALL WINSLOW | VP | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | MRS. CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | JOHN F. MITCHELL | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MRS. RALPH TAPSCOTT | S | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | DARRELL FLEMING | CTT | - | - | | VACANT | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | P | JUDGE | - | | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. W. E. BUSSELL (LENORA) | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | HARRY DAVIS | CTT | - | - |
| | Z. M. SMITH | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | TOM WILLIAMS | JCC | - | - |
| | MRS. LUCIAN CURRY | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | IVAN DUDLEY | JCC | - | - |
| 1946 | MARSHALL WINSLOW | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | MRS. KENNETH ORR | JCC | - | - |
| | MRS. E. W. PRATT | - | JUDGE | - | | MRS. WILLIAM E. BUSSELL | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. J. H. BROOKS | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | MRS. CHAS GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | JOHN F. MITCHELL | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | DARRELL FLEMING | - | CENTER TWP. TRUSTEE | - | | GEORGE B. DAVIS | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | WILLIAM A. HOUGH | P | JUDGE | - | | | | | |
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| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES | REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|-------------|--|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| | HARRY DAVIS | CTT | - | - | | MRS. GLENN BOYD | - | JCC | - |
| 1953 | THOMAS WILLIAMS | - | JCC | FEB 1955 | | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1961 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | - | | MRS. CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | MRS. GLENN BOYD | - | JCC | FEB 1955 | | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1961 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. ARTHUR DOWNING | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | 1961 | GORDON MESSERLIE | - | JCC | MAY 1961 |
| | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1962 |
| | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MRS. GLENN BOYD | - | JCC | - |
| | NOTE: 1 POSITION VACANT "IN THE EVENT THAT CENTER TOWNSHIP CAME BACK IN" | | | | | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| 1954 | TOM WILLIAMS | - | JCC | FEB. 1955 | | MRS. CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | OCT. 1955 | | RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - |
| | MRS. GLENN BOYD | - | JCC | FEB. 1955 | | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1964 |
| | VACANT | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | 1962 | GORDON MESSERLIE | - | JCC | - |
| | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | - |
| | MRS. CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | VACANT | - | JCC | - |
| | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1965 |
| | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | LEAH K. DOWNING | - | CITY COUNCIL | - |
| 1955 | TOM WILLIAMS | - | JCC | - | | RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1963 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | - | JCC | - | | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1964 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | - | 1963 | IVAN DUDLEYP | - | JCC | MAY 1962 |
| | MRS. GLENN BOYD | - | JCC | - | | THELMA ORR T | - | JCC | MAY 1965 |
| | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | VACANT | - | JCC | - |
| | VACANT | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | GORDON MESSERLIE | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1965 |
| | MRS. CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | LEAH K. DOWNING | S | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1966 |
| | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1963 |
| | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | STEPHAN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1964 |
| 1956 | GORDON MESSERLIE | - | JCC | - | 1964 | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1966 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | - | | THELMA ORR | - | JCC | MAY 1965 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | | VACANT | - | JCC | - |
| | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1965 |
| | MRS. CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | LEAH K. DOWNING | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1966 |
| | RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1967 |
| | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | STEPHEN FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1964 |
| 1957 | GORDON MESSERLIE | - | JCC | - | 1965 | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1966 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | - | | BARBARA MORRISON | - | JCC | MAY 1965 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | | VACANT | - | JCC | - |
| | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1965 |
| | MRS. CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | LEAH K. DOWNING | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1966 |
| | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1967 |
| | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | STEPHEN FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1968 |
| 1958 | GORDON MESSERLIE | - | JCC | - | 1966 | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1966 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | - | | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | MAY 1969 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | | VACANT | VP | JCC | - |
| | MRS. KENNETH ORR | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1969 |
| | MRS. CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | - | | RUTH RIHM | - | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1966 |
| | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1967 |
| | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | - | | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1968 |
| 1959 | GORDON MESSERLIE | S | JCC | MAY 1961 | 1967 | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1970 |
| | IVAN DUDLEYVP | - | JCC | MAY 1962 | | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | MAY 1969 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | | VACANT | VP | JCC | - |
| | MRS. KENNETH ORR | T | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1961 | | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1969 |
| | MRS. ARTHUR DOWNING | - | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1963 | | RUTH RIHM | - | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1970 |
| | MISS RUTH WILLIAMSON | P | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1961 | | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1967 |
| | STEPHEN FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1960 | | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1968 |
| 1960 | GORDON MESSERLIE | - | JCC | MAY 1961 | 1968 | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1970 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1962 | 1968 | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | MAY 1969 |

| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES | REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|-------------|------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1977 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1969 | | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1978 |
| | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1970 | | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1975 |
| | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1971 | | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1976 |
| 1969 | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1968 | | MARY CROSS | - | GCCSC | MAY 1979 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1970 | 1977 | IVAN DUDLEYT | - | JCC | APR. 1978 |
| | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | MAY 1969 | | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | MAY 1977 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1977 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1969 | | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1978 |
| | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1970 | | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1976 |
| | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1971 | 1978 | MARY CROSS | - | GCCSC | MAY 1979 |
| 1970 | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1972 | | IVAN DUDLEYT | - | JCC | APR. 1978 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1970 | | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | MAY 1977 |
| | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | APR. 1973 | | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1977 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1978 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1969 | | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1976 |
| | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1970 | | MARY CROSS | - | GCCSC | MAY 1979 |
| | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1971 | 1979 | PEARLANN HAINES | VP | JCC | MAY, 1981 |
| 1971 | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1972 | | JOHN EMMERSON | - | JCC | MAY 1982 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | MAY 1970 | | MARGARET BARTNICK | T | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1982 |
| | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | APR. 1973 | | GORDON P. MESSERLIE | S | CITY COUNCIL | MAY, 1981 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | | STEPHEN A. FREE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1980 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1973 | | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | MAY 1979 |
| | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1974 | 1980 | PEARLANN HAINES | VP | JCC | MAY, 1981 |
| | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1971 | | DR. JOHN EMMERSON | - | JCC | MAY 1982 |
| 1972 | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1972 | | TIMOTHY CLARK | S | JCC | APRIL 1983 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | APR. 1973 | | MARGARET BARTNICK | T | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1982 |
| | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | APR. 1973 | | JACK NEW | - | CITY COUNCIL | APRIL, 1982 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | MAY 1983 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1973 | 1981 | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1980 |
| | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1974 | | PEARLANN HAINES | - | JCC | MAY, 1981 |
| | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1971 | | DR. JOHN EMMERSON | - | JCC | MAY 1982 |
| 1973 | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1972 | | TIMOTHY CLARK | - | JCC | APRIL 1983 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | APR. 1973 | | MARGARET BARTNICK | - | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1982 |
| | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | APR. 1973 | | JACK NEW | - | CITY COUNCIL | APRIL, 1982 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | 1982 | MARY CROSS | - | GCCSC | MAY 1983 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1973 | | PEARLANN HAINES | VP | JCC | MAY, 1985 |
| | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1974 | | DR. JOHN EMMERSON | - | JCC | MAY 1982 |
| | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1975 | | DONALD HOFFMAN | - | JCC | MAY 1986 |
| 1974 | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1976 | | TIMOTHY G. CLARK S | - | JCC | APRIL 1983 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | APR. 1974 | | MARGARET BARTNICK | - | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1982 |
| | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | MAY 1977 | | CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | AUGUST, 1984 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | 1983 | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | MAY 1983 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1977 | | PEARLANN HAINES | VP | JCC | MAY, 1985 |
| | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1974 | | DONALD HOFFMAN | - | JCC | MAY 1986 |
| | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1975 | | TIMOTHY G. CLARK | S | JCC | APRIL 1983 |
| 1975 | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1976 | | MARGARET BARTNICK | - | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1986 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | APR. 1978 | | CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | AUGUST, 1984 |
| | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | MAY 1977 | | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | MAY 1983 |
| | VACANT | - | JCC | - | 1984 | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1984 |
| | GORDON MESSERLIE | P | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1977 | | PEARLANN HAINES | VP | JCC | MAY, 1985 |
| | RUTH RIHM | VP | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1978 | | DR. DONALD G. HOFFMAN | - | JCC | MAY 1986 |
| | RUTH WILLIAMSON | T | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1975 | | TIMOTHY G. CLARK | S | JCC | APRIL 1987 |
| 1976 | STEPHEN A. FREE | S | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1976 | | MARGARET S. BARTNICK | - | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1986 |
| | IVAN DUDLEY | - | JCC | APR. 1978 | 1984 | CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | MAY, 1985 |
| 1976 | MADGE STRICKLAND | - | JCC | MAY 1977 | | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | MAY 1987 |

| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES | REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|-------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1985 | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1984 | 1993 | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1995 |
| | PEARLANN HAINES | VP | JCC | MAY, 1985 | | RICHARD RIEGLE | - | HCC | MAY 1994 |
| | DR. DONALD G. HOFFMAN | - | JCC | MAY 1986 | | PEARLANN HAINES | P | HCCOM | MAY 1993 |
| | TIMOTHY G. CLARK | S | JCC | APRIL 1987 | | BETH WILLOUGHBY | S | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1994 |
| | MARGARET S. BARTNICK | - | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1986 | | SUZANNE DETTWILER | - | MAYOR | MAY 1993 |
| 1986 | CHARLES GEILE | - | CITY COUNCIL | MAY, 1985 | 1994 | JO ANN AMICK | - | GCCSC | MAY 1995 |
| | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | MAY 1987 | | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1992 |
| | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1988 | | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1995 |
| | PEARLANN HAINES | S | HCCOM | MAY, 1989 | | RICHARD RIEGLE | - | HCC | MAY 1994 |
| | DR. DONALD D. HOFFMAN | - | JCC | MAY 1986 | | GREGG MORELOCK | - | HCCOM | MAY 1996 |
| 1987 | TIMOTHY G. CLARK | T | JCC | APRIL 1987 | 1995 | BETH WILLOUGHBY | P | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1994 |
| | MARGARET S. BARTNICK | - | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1986 | | SUZANNE DETTWILER | - | MAYOR | MAY 1997 |
| | CHARLES GEILE | VP | MAYOR | MAY, 1989 | | JO ANN AMICK | - | GCCSC | MAY 1995 |
| | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | MAY 1987 | | LINDA RAMIREZ | S | SCHOOL BOARD | SEPT 1996 |
| | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1988 | | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1995 |
| 1988 | PEARLANN HAINES | S | HCCOM | MAY, 1989 | 1996 | JAMES LANDES | P | COUNTY COUNCIL | MAY 1998 |
| | DR. DONALD G. HOFFMAN | - | JCC | MAY 1990 | | GREGG MORELOCK | - | HCCOM | MAY 1996 |
| | TIMOTHY G. CLARK | T | JCC | APRIL 1987 | | BETH WILLOUGHBY | S | CITY COUNCIL | JULY 1998 |
| | MARY LOU HUNT | - | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1990 | | SUZANNE DETTWILER | - | MAYOR | MAY 1997 |
| | CHARLES GEILE | VP | MAYOR | MAY, 1989 | | JO ANN AMICK | - | GCCSC | MAY 1995 |
| 1989 | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | MAY 1987 | 1997 | DAVID MURPHY | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1999 |
| | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1988 | | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1995 |
| | PEARLANN HAINES | S | HCC | MAY, 1989 | | JAMES LANDES | P | HCC | MAY 1998 |
| | DR. DONALD G. HOFFMAN | - | HCCOM | MAY 1990 | | RALPH MYERHOLTZ | - | HCCOM | MAY 1997 |
| | MARY LOU HUNT | VP | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1990 | | BETH WILLOUGHBY | S | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1998 |
| 1990 | VACANT | - | MAYOR | MAY, 1989 | 1998 | SUZANNE DETTWILER | - | MAYOR | MAY 1997 |
| | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | 1991 | | JO ANN AMICK | - | GCCSC | MAY 1999 |
| | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1988 | | DAVID MURPHY | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1999 |
| | DAVID BERARD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | 1991 | | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | VP | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1999 |
| | RICHARD RIEGLE | - | HCC | MAY 1990 | | JAMES LANDES | - | HCC | MAY 1998 |
| 1991 | PEARLANN HAINES | S | HCCOM | MAY 1989 | 1999 | RALPH MYERHOLTZ | - | HCCOM | MAY 1997 |
| | MARY LOU HUNT | VP | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1990 | | BETH WILLOUGHBY | - | CITY COUNCIL | MAY 1998 |
| | SUZANNE DETTWILER | - | MAYOR | MAY 1989 | | JO ANN AMICK | - | MAYOR | MAY 1997 |
| | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | APRIL 1991 | | DAVID MURPHY | - | GCCSC | MAY 1999 |
| | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1992 | | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | - | SCHOOL BOARD | MAY 1999 |
| 1992 | DAVID BERARD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | APRIL 1991 | 2000 | LOREN IMES | - | HCC | 05/01/02 |
| | RICHARD RIEGLE | - | HCC | MAY 1994 | | JEANNIE ROBERTS | P | G-FIELD MAYOR | 05/31/01 |
| | PEARLANN HAINES | S | HCCOM | MAY 1993 | | BETH WILLOUGHBY | S | GCC | 07/31/98 |
| | BETH WILLOUGHBY | VP | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1994 | | RALPH MYERHOLTZ | - | HCCOM | 05/01/01 |
| | SUE DETTWILER | - | MAYOR | MAY 1993 | | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | VP | GCCSC | 06/12/99 |
| 1992 | MARY CROSS | P | GCCSC | APRIL 1991 | 2000 | DAVID MURPHY | - | GCCSC | 06/12/03 |
| | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1992 | | JANE (MARJANIA K.) | PFAFF | EHS | 06/12/03 |
| | DAVID BERARD | - | SCHOOL BOARD | APRIL 1991 | | LOREN IMES | - | HCC | 05/01/02 |
| | RICHARD RIEGLE | - | HCC | MAY 1994 | | JEANNIE ROBERTS | - | G-FIELD MAYOR | 05/31/01 |
| | PEARLANN HAINES | P | HCCOM | MAY 1993 | | BETH WILLOUGHBY | - | GCC | 07/31/02 |
| 1992 | BETH WILLOUGHBY | S | CITY COUNCIL | JUNE 1994 | 2000 | RALPH MYERHOLTZ | - | HCCOM | 05/01/01 |
| | SUZANNE DETTWILER | - | MAYOR | MAY 1993 | | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | - | GCCSC | 06/12/03 |
| | JO ANN AMICK | - | GCCSC | MAY 1995 | | DAVID MURPHY | - | GCCSC | 06/12/03 |
| | RONALD PRITZKE | - | SCHOOL BOARD | AUGUST 1992 | | JANE (MARJANIA K.) | PFAFF | EHS | 06/12/03 |
| | | | | | | LOREN IMES | - | HCC | 05/01/02 |

| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES | REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 2001 | JANE (MARJANIA K.) | PFAFF | EHS | 06/12/03 | 2009 | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/10 |
| | LOREN IMES | - | HCC | 05/01/02 | | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/11 |
| | JEANNIE ROBERTS | - | GCC | 05/01/01 | | MARK COPELAND | - | MVCS | 06/12/11 |
| | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/01/05 | | JANE (MARJANIA K.) | PFAFF | EHS | 06/12/11 |
| | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/05 | | JOE MOHR | - | HCC | 05/01/10 |
| 2002 | BETH WILLOUGHBY | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/02 | 2010 | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/31/13 |
| | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | - | GCCSC | 06/12/03 | | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/13 |
| | DAVID MURPHY | - | GCCSC | 06/12/03 | | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/10 |
| | LOREN IMES | - | HCC | 05/01/06 | | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/11 |
| | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/01/05 | | MARK COPELAND | - | MVCS | 06/12/11 |
| 2003 | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/05 | 2011 | JANE (MARJANIA K.) | PFAFF | EHS | 06/12/11 |
| | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/06 | | JOE MOHR | - | HCC | 05/01/14 |
| | BETH WILLOUGHBY | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/02 | | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/31/13 |
| | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | - | GCCSC | 06/12/03 | | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/13 |
| | DAVID MURPHY | - | GCCSC | 06/12/03 | | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/14 |
| 2004 | JANE (MARJANIA K.) PFAFF | - | EHS | 06/12/03 | 2012 | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/11 |
| | LOREN IMES | - | HCC | 05/01/06 | | MARK COPELAND | - | MVCS | 06/12/11 |
| | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/01/05 | | JANE (MARJANIA K.) | PFAFF | EHS | 06/12/11 |
| | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/05 | | JOE MOHR | - | HCC | 05/01/14 |
| | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/06 | | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/31/13 |
| 2005 | LINDA ZIMMERMAN | - | GCCSC | 06/12/03 | 2013 | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/13 |
| | DAVID MURPHY | - | GCCSC | 06/12/07 | | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/14 |
| | DANA HOCHSTEDLER | - | MVCS | 06/12/07 | | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/15 |
| | JANE (MARJANIA K.) PFAFF | - | EHS | 05/19/07 | | MARK COPELAND | - | MVCS | 06/12/11, RESIGNED |
| | LOREN IMES | - | HCC | 05/01/06 | | SUSAN EDWARDS | - | MVCS | FEB. 21-JUNE 12, 2011 |
| 2006 | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/01/05 | 2014 | JANE (MARJANIA K.) PFAFF | - | EHS | 06/12/15 |
| | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/05 | | JOE MOHR | - | HCC | 05/01/14 |
| | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/06 | | REED TARWATER | - | HCC | 05/01/18 |
| | DAVID MURPHY | - | GCCSC | 06/12/07 | | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/31/17 |
| | DANA HOCHSTEDLER | - | MVCS | 06/12/07 | | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/17 |
| 2007 | JANE (MARJANIA K.) PFAFF | - | EHS | 05/19/07 | 2015 | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/18 |
| | LOREN IMES | - | HCC | 05/01/06 | | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/15 |
| | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/31/09 | | SUSAN EDWARDS | - | MVCS | 06/12/15 |
| | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/09 | | JANE (MARJANIA K.) PFAFF | - | EHS | 06/12/15 |
| | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/06 | | REED TARWATER | - | HCC | 05/01/18 |
| 2008 | DAVID MURPHY | - | GCCSC | 06/12/07 | 2016 | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/31/17 |
| | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/11 | | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/17 |
| | MARK COPELAND | - | MVCS | 06/12/11 | | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/18 |
| | JANE (MARJANIA K.) PFAFF | - | EHS | 06/12/11 | | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/19 |
| | JOE MOHR | - | HCC | 05/01/10 | | SUSAN EDWARDS | - | MVCS | 06/12/15 |
| 2008 | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/31/09 | 2016 | THOMAS SENG | - | MVCS | 06/12/19 |
| | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/09 | | JANE (MARJANIA K.) PFAFF | - | EHS | 06/12/15 |
| 2008 | | | | | | LIBBY MANSHIP | - | EHS | 06/12/19 |
| | | | | | | REED TARWATER | - | HCC | 05/01/18 |

| REPORT DATE | NAME | POSITION | APPOINTING BODY | TERM EXPIRES |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/31/17 |
| | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/17 |
| | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/18 |
| | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/19 |
| | THOMAS SENG | - | MVCS | 06/12/19 |
| | LIBBY MANSHIP | - | EHS | 06/12/19 |
| 2017 | REED TARWATER | - | HCC | 05/01/18 |
| | DR. TED GABRIELSEN | - | GCC | 05/31/17 |
| | LORI ELMORE | - | GCC | 05/31/21 |
| | SENATOR BEVERLY GARD | - | HCCOM | 05/01/17 |
| | DAVID ROBERTS | - | HCCOM | 05/01/21 |
| | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/18 |
| | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/19 |
| | THOMAS SENG | - | MVCS | 06/12/19 |
| | LIBBY MANSHIP | - | EHS | 06/12/19 |
| PREDICTED BOARD | | | | |
| 2018 | REED TARWATER | - | HCC | 05/01/18 |
| | LORI ELMORE | - | GCC | 05/31/21 |
| | DAVID ROBERTS | - | HCCOM | 05/01/21 |
| | HARLAN SMITH | - | CSCSHC | 07/31/18 |
| | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/19 |
| | THOMAS SENG | - | MVCS | 06/12/19 |
| | LIBBY MANSHIP | HCC | EHS | 06/12/19 |
| 2019 | | | | |
| | LORI ELMORE | - | GCC | 05/31/21 |
| | DAVID ROBERTS | - | HCCOM | 05/01/21 |
| | CSCSHC | | | |
| | PEGGY (MARGARET) PRITZKE | - | GCCSC | 06/12/19 |
| | THOMAS SENG | - | MVCS | 06/12/19 |
| | LIBBY MANSHIP | - | EHS | 06/12/19 |

SOURCES

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY, LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.
CORRESPONDENCE 1/11/1941 FROM HAZEL B. WARREN, CHIEF, EXTENSION DIVISION
TO MISS VERNIE BALDWIN, LIBRARIAN

– CORRESPONDENCE 8/29/1951 FROM HARRIET I. CARTER, HEAD, EXTENSION DIVISION
TO VERNIE BALDWIN, LIBRARIAN.

– CORRESPONDENCE 2/5/1958 FROM MARCELLE FOOTE, FIELD CONSULTANT
TO VERNIE BALDWIN, LIBRARIAN.

APPENDIX C: BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

| | | | |
|------|---|------|--|
| 1979 | President: Charles W. “Pat” Geile Secretary: Ruth Rihm Treasurer: Susan Billings Bylaws Committee: Glenna Dudley Robert Bogiggian Mary Cross, <i>President of the Greenfield Public Library Board</i> Notes: Meeting was held August 30, 1970 to elect officer and establish a bylaws committee. The steering committee met on September 11 to act upon the proposed bylaws. | 985 | President: Linda Zimmerman Secretary: Margaret Mertz, resigned April 30 Sue Berard, appointed by board Treasurer: John Zimmerman Board Members: Sue Berard, later appointed to secretary position Teresa Amick Nancy Bowling, appointed by board |
| 1980 | President: Charles W. “Pat” Geile Secretary: Ruth Rihm Treasurer: Susan “Susie” Billings Director & Membership Chairperson: Garold Jackson Director & Public Relations Chairperson: Sally Cone | 1986 | President: Barbara Oberthur Secretary: Sue Berard Treasurer: Teresa Amick Board Members: Nancy Bowling Glenn Evans |
| 1981 | President: Susan Billings Secretary: Linda Zimmerman Treasurer: Linda Zimmerman Board Members: Margaret Mertz Charles W. Geile Ruth Rihm Other positions within the organization Co-chairs for Annual Book Sale: Susan Billings and Sally Cone | 1987 | President: Teresa Amick Secretary: Sue Berard Treasurer: Nancy Bowling Board Members: Barbara Oberthur Rhonda Abbott Other positions within the organization Publicity Chairperson: Betty Ott Off the Shelf Editor: Betty Ott |
| 1982 | President: Susan Billings Secretary: Margaret Mertz Treasurer: Linda Zimmerman Board Members: Ruth Rihm Sue Dettwiler Charles W. Geile | 1988 | President: Teresa Amick Vice President: Nancy King Secretary: Pidge Spacey Treasurer: Joy Stouder Board Members: Sally Bush Linda Ramirez Other positions within the organization Membership Campaign: Peg Pritzke & Chris Murphy Junior Friends Committee: Linda Zimmermann and Carol McMichael Off the Shelf Editor: Betty Ott Riley Booksale: Linda Zimmermann |
| 1983 | President: Linda Zimmerman Secretary: Margaret Mertz Treasurer: John Zimmerman Board Members: Ruth Rihm Sue Dettwiler | 1989 | President: Nancy King Vice President: Frank Richardson Secretary: Pidge Spacey Treasurer: Joy Stouder Board Members: Carol Brewer Katherine Richardson Carol McMichael Linda Ramirez Sally Bush Other positions within the organization Off the Shelf Editor: Carol Brewer & Katherine Richardson Coordinator of Textbook Grant: Linda Ramirez |
| 1984 | President: Linda Zimmerman Secretary: Margaret Mertz Treasurer: John Zimmerman Board Members: Ruth Rihm Sue Berard | | |
| 1 | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| 1990 | President: Nancy King Vice President: Ann Skvarenina & Frank Richardson Secretary: Lou Ann Myran Treasurer: Glora Anderson Board Members: Lee Dillinger Nancy Carter Leavitta Hamilton Katherine Richardson Doris Althaus Debra Smith | Secretary: Judith Tompkins Treasurer: Ron Underwood Board Members: Don Jenkins, resigned Nancy King Ralph Myerholtz Joseph Wehlacz John Zimmerman Robert Buenger Ed Veenhuizen Debbie Spangler Yolanda Miller Marge Targett John Ward III | 2000 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: unfilled Secretary: Bette Boes Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen Board Members: Glora Anderson Don Barney Joyce Benbow Robert Buenger Sally Cone Patty Hawkins Debbie Spangler | 2007 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: Debra Nagel Secretary: Joyce Benbow Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen | |
| 1991 | President: Ann Skvarenina Vice President: Nancy Carter Secretary: Lou Ann Myran Treasurer: Glora Anderson | | 2001 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: unfilled Secretary: Bette Boes Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen Board Members: Joyce Benbow Patty Hawkins | 2008 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: unfilled Secretary: Joyce Benbow Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen | |
| Other positions within the organization | Used book sale: Nancy Carter & Ken Bowman Book Grant: Betty Friedersdorf & Cheri Wehlacz Membership: Ann Skvarenina, Lou Ann Myran, & Cheri Wehlacz Newsletter: Glora Anderson, Wilma Bowman, & Donna Schuster Book Cart: Ken Bowman Publicity: Leavitta Hamilton, Glora Anderson, Wilma Bowman Special Events: Glora Anderson | 1996 | President: Bette Boes Vice President: Ron Underwood Secretary: Debbie Spangler Treasurer: John Zimmermann | | 2010 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: unfilled Secretary: Joyce Benbow Treasurer: Susie Billings | |
| | | 1997 | President: Bette Boes Vice President: Ron Underwood Secretary: Debbie Spangler Treasurer: John Zimmermann Board Members: Robert Buenger Bill Runnion Marge Targett Ed Veenhuizen John Ward | 2002 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: Joyce Benbow Secretary: unfilled Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen | 2011 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: Debra Nagel Secretary: Joyce Benbow Treasurer: Susie Billings |
| 1992 | President: Ann Skvarenina Vice President: Glora Anderson Secretary: Donna Schuster Treasurer: Nancy King Board Members: Ralph Myerholtz Louis Myerholtz Nancy Carter Leavitta Hamilton | 1998 | President: Bette Boes Vice President: Mary Cross Secretary: Debbie Spangler Treasurer: John Zimmermann Board Members: Don Barney Robert Buenger Bill Runnion Marge Targett Judith Tompkins Ed Veenhuizen John Ward | 2003 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: Joyce Benbow Secretary: unfilled Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen Board Members: Glora Anderson Don Barney Bette Boes Bob Buenger Patty Hawkins Nancy Bowling | 2012 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: unfilled Secretary: Judith Bryan Treasurer: Susie Billings Board Members: Dave Willis, membership chair |
| 1993 | President: Ralph Myerholtz Vice President: Betty Friedersdorf Secretary: Donna Schuster Treasurer: Nancy King Board Members: Sue Baker Glen Barrett Claire DeVoe Leavitta Hamilton Ann Dutcher Joseph Wehlacz | 1999 | President: unfilled Vice President: Mary Cross Secretary: Bette Boes Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen Board Members: Glora Anderson Don Barney Robert Buenger Patty Hawkins Debbie Spangler Bill Runnion Marge Targett Judith Tompkins | 2004 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: unfilled Secretary: Bette Boes Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen | 2013 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: Bob Buenger Secretary: Judith Bryan Treasurer: Susie Billings Board Members: Dave Willis Don Barney Joyce Benbow Diane Buenger Sharon Livingston Jody Webb |
| 1994 | President: Ralph Myerholtz Vice President: Jada Urquhart Secretary: Nancy King Treasurer: Bette Boes | | 2005 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: Don Barney Secretary: Bette Boes Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen | 2014 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: Bob Buenger Secretary: Judith Bryan Treasurer: Susie Billings Board Members: Don Barney Joyce Benbow Diane Buenger Sharon Livingston Jody Webb David Willis | |
| 1995 | President: Bette Boes Vice President: Jada Urquhart | | 2006 | President: Mary Cross Vice President: Don Barney Secretary: Joyce Benbow Treasurer: Ed Veenhuizen Board Members: Joyce Benbow Patty Hawkins | | | |

2015 President: Mary Cross
Vice President: Bob Buenger
Secretary: Judith Bryan
Treasurer: Susie Billings
Board Members:
Don Barney
Joyce Benbow
Diane Buenger
Sharon Livingston
Jody Webb
David Willis

2016 President: Mary Cross
Vice President: Bob Buenger
Secretary: Sharon Livingston
Treasurer: Susan Billings
Board Members:
Don Barney
Joyce Benbow
Diane Buenger
Rachel Hilligoss
Jody Webb
David Willis

2017 President: Bob Buenger
Vice President: Kathy Jones
Secretary: Sharon Livingston
Treasurer: Susie Billings
Board Members:
Don Barney
Joyce Benbow
Diane Buenger
Mary Cross
Rachel Hilligoss
Jody Webb
David Willis

APPENDIX D: 1978 LIBRARY SURVEY

LIBRARY SURVEY

1. HOW DID YOU COME TO THE LIBRARY?
WALK___ RIDE___ DRIVE___
2. HOW MANY TIMES PER MONTH DO YOU VISIT THE LIBRARY?
1___ 2___ 3___ MORE___
3. HOW MANY IN YOUR FAMILY USE THE LIBRARY?
1___ 2___ 3___ 4___ MORE___
4. WHAT AGES USE THE LIBRARY?
PRESCHOOL___ GRADE SCHOOL___ HIGH SCHOOL___ OVER 18___ OVER 25___ OVER 40___ OVER 60___
5. DO YOU FEEL THE LIBRARY IS ADEQUATE FOR GREENFIELD?
YES___ NO___
6. DO YOU USE THE LIBRARY FOR:
PLEASURE___
REFERENCE___
CURRENT EVENTS___
7. DO YOU USE A LIBRARY OTHER THAN THE GREENFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY?
YES___ NO___
8. WOULD YOU VISIT THE LIBRARY MORE OFTEN IF THERE WERE AMPLE PARKING?
YES___ NO___ SAME___
9. IF THE LIBRARY WERE TO RELOCATED WHERE DO YOU THINK IT SHOULD BE?

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON REVERSE PLEASE:

REPRODUCED FROM:
“WHAT DO YOU THINK?” THE DAILY REPORTER (GREENFIELD, IN), JUL. 1, 1979.

APPENDIX E: 1997 TASK GROUP SURVEY

605 TOTAL RESPONDENTS
TOTAL RESPONSES ARE INCLUDED WHERE APPROPRIATE AND IN BOLD

DEAR HANCOCK COUNTY RESIDENT,

A TASK GROUP MADE UP OF RESIDENTS FROM EVERY TOWNSHIP IN THE COUNTY IS STUDYING THE QUESTION OF COUNTYWIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE. THIS SURVEY WAS DEVELOPED TO PROVIDE THE TASK GROUP WITH INFORMATION FROM COUNTY RESIDENTS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU RESPOND BY COMPLETING THIS SURVEY AND RETURNING TO YOUR LIBRARY OR REFOLD WITH RETURN ADDRESS TO THE OUTSIDE, TAPE SHUT AND MAIL BACK TO THE TASK GROUP. PLEASE CONSIDER THE WANTS AND NEEDS OF YOUR ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD AS YOU RESPOND TO THESE QUESTIONS.

PERSONAL INFORMATION SECTION:
1. HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN HANCOCK COUNTY? (CHECK)
17 LESS THAN 1 YEAR 110 1-5 YEARS 79 6-10 YEARS 399 LONGER THAN 10 YEARS

2. HOW MANY PEOPLE IN EACH AGE GROUP LIVE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD?
73 0-2 124 3-5 179 6-8 220 9-12 107 13-15 79 16-18
80 19-24 243 25-36 357 36-45 319 46-69 94 OVER 70

3. WHAT IS THE LAST SCHOOL GRADE WHICH YOU (PERSON FILLING OUT SURVEY) COMPLETED?
5 LESS THAN 8TH 9 8TH GRADE 190 12TH GRADE 14 GED
106 SOME COLLEGE 73 2YR. COLLEGE 116 4YR. COLLEGE 107 MORE

LIBRARY INFORMATION SECTION:
4. DOES ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD PRESENTLY HAVE A PUBLIC LIBRARY CARD?
314 YES 280 NO
4A. IF YES, IS IT FROM:
35 FORTVILLE/VERNON TOWNSHIP 201 GREENFIELD 85 OTHER

5. NUMBER OF VISITS YOU MAKE TO THE LIBRARY PER YEAR:
108 1-4 116 5-12 129 13-26 182 MORE THAN 26

6. DO YOU PAY TAXES ON PROPERTY OWNED IN THE CITY OF GREENFIELD, FORTVILLE OR VERNON TOWNSHIP?
175 YES 427 NO

7. DO YOU CURRENTLY PAY A FEE FOR A NON-RESIDENT LIBRARY CARD FROM ANY LIBRARY?
174 YES 416 NO

8. HOW FAR WOULD YOU DRIVE TO USE A GOOD LIBRARY?
126 5 MILES 204 10 MILES 151 15 MILES 92 MORE

9. THE FOLLOWING SERVICES AND MATERIALS ARE PART OF A GOOD LIBRARY. PLEASE CHECK THE ONES THAT YOU WOULD USE:

| | | |
|-----|--|--------------------|
| 316 | A. COMPUTERS FOR PUBLIC USE | |
| 377 | N. TRAVEL INFORMATION | |
| 118 | B. TYPEWRITERS FOR PUBLIC USE | |
| 266 | O. TAX FORMS | |
| 393 | C. CHILDREN’S BOOKS | |
| 220 | P. CD-ROM PROGRAMS | |
| 332 | D. CHILDREN’S VIDEOS AND FILMSTRIPS | |
| 196 | Q. DIAL-UP ACCESS TO THE LIBRARY CATALOG | |
| 261 | E. COMPACT DISCS (CDS) | R. OFFICE MACHINES |
| 169 | F. CHILDREN’S GAMES/PUZZLES/ AND TOYS | |
| 329 | 1. COPIER | |
| 417 | G. ADULT BESTSELLERS | |
| 169 | 2. FAX | |
| 427 | H. REFERENCE BOOKS (ENCYCLOPEDIAS, DICTIONARIES) | |
| 224 | 3. LAMINATOR | |
| 400 | I. “HOW TO” MATERIALS | |
| 156 | S. MEETING AND STUDY ROOMS | |
| 214 | J. RECORDED BOOKS | |
| 157 | T. INTERNET ACCESS | |
| 292 | K. MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS | |
| 95 | U. TELEPHONE REFERENCE SERVICE | |
| | L. PROGRAMS FOR | |
| 185 | V. JOB SEARCH AND CAREER RESOURCES | |
| 43 | 1. INFANTS | |
| 111 | W. LARGE PRINT BOOKS | |
| 244 | 2. CHILDREN | |
| 233 | X. LOCAL HISTORY AND GENEALOGY MATERIALS | |
| 131 | 3. TEENS | |
| 169 | Y. CHRISTIAN FICTION | |
| | Z. OTHER: | |
| | USED BOOKS SALE, ART PRINTS, CHRISTIAN NONFICTION, INTERLIBRARY LOAN, NATURAL HEALTH INFO, TEEN BOOKS, CRAFTS, CIVIL WAR, SPECIAL EVENTS | |
| 240 | 4. ADULTS | |
| 94 | 5. SENIOR CITIZENS | |
| 159 | 6. FAMILIES | |
| 414 | M. VIDEOS | |

10. DO YOU OWN PROPERTY IN HANCOCK COUNTY?

551 YES 47 NO

11. WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HAVE 3-5 CENTS ADDED TO EACH DOLLAR YOU PAY IN PROPERTY TAXES FOR GOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE?

445 YES 149 NO

12. WHAT TOWNSHIP DO YOU LIVE IN? _____

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY. THE FUTURE OF LIBRARY SERVICE IN HANCOCK COUNTY DEPENDS ON THE WORK OF THE TASK GROUP. THE INFORMATION YOU HAVE PROVIDED IS CRUCIAL TO THAT WORK. THE RESULTS OF THIS SURVEY WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AND WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE FORTVILLE/VERNON TOWNSHIP AND GREENFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARIES. A COPY MAY ALSO BE OBTAINED BY CALLING 462-5141 OR FAXING YOUR REQUEST TO 462-5711.

REPRODUCED FROM:
HANCOCK COUNTY TASK GROUP SURVEY ON LIBRARY EXPANSION. DOCUMENT, INDIANA STATE LIBRARY LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, 1997.

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A History of the Hancock County Public Library
Information in this history was sourced from numerous newspaper articles, newsletters, organizational records, and annual reports. At the time of this writing, annual reports prior to the 1990s may be found at the Indiana State Library’s Library Development Office. The LDO files also contain numerous newspaper clippings and other various records of interest.

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— Correspondence 8/29/1951 from Harriet I. Carter, Head, Extension Division to Vernie Baldwin, Librarian. See Appendix A: Directors for the Greenfield & Hancock County Public Library.

— Correspondence 2/5/1958 from Marcelle Foote, Field Consultant to Vernie Baldwin, Librarian. See Appendix A: Directors for the Greenfield & Hancock County Public Library.

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A History of the Mary M. Nichols New Palestine Community Library
Information in this history was sourced from newspaper articles, newsletters, and organizational records. At the time of this writing, these newsletters and organizational records are in possession of the library and are located in the vertical files.

A History of the Friends of the Hancock County Public Library
Information in this history was sourced from newspaper articles, newsletters, and minute books. At the time of this writing, these newsletters and minute books are in possession of the Friends.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

Joseph L. Skvarenina obtained his B.S. in Ed and M.Ed in Student Personnel Administration Kent State University, Kent, Ohio. He also has a Minister of Religion Commissioned by colloquy Concordia University, River Forest Illinois, and a Fund Raising Management Certificate, School of Philanthropy from Indiana University.

Skvarenina was appointed by the Indiana Historical Society & Indiana Historical Bureau to the position of Hancock County Historian in 1991. He was appointed to the Indiana State Library and Historical Bureau Board by Governor Mike Pence in 2016. Skvarenina was awarded Herbert Hawkins Award by the Indiana Historical Society for major contributions to local history. He currently serves on the board for the Hancock Historical Society, Riley Old Home Society, and is a member at large for the Greenfield City Council. He is a member of the Phi Alpha Theta and the International Society of Historians.

He serves as an adjunct history instructor at Ivy Tech. He hosts a weekly cable program called “Step back in Time” on Ninestar Connect, as well as writes a Daily Reporter column on local history. He has written numerous publications and articles on state and local history, including a biannual newsletter on Hancock County History.

Paul McNeil is a reference librarian at the Hancock County Public Library. He received a bachelor of arts degree in history from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana and a master’s degree in library science from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. At IU his specialization was in archives and records management. While in Bloomington he worked at the Indiana University Librarian Collections, Indiana University Archives, and the Herman B Wells Library as a reference assistant.

McNeil was appointed by the Indiana Genealogical Society to serve as the Hancock County Genealogist in 2015. He is also a member of the organization as well as the Indiana Library Federation. McNeil has been with the HCPL since 2014.

Cynthia Faunce is a reference librarian at the Hancock County Public Library. A native of Indianapolis, she received a bachelor’s degree in Education from Butler University, Indianapolis, and a master’s degree in library science from Indiana University, Bloomington. She held several positions at the Indiana State Library including Reference Librarian and Division Head in the Indiana History Division which included overseeing the manuscript and newspaper sections. She also supervised the Genealogy Division. Her publications include articles in Indiana Libraries, Indiana History Bulletin and entries in the Encyclopedia of Indianapolis. She has been Library Director at the Shelbyville-Shelby County Public Library, Shelbyville, Indiana. When the Mary M. Nichols Community Library was formed in New Palestine, she became a board member, a charter member and volunteered many hours at the library. She is a member of the Indiana Library Federation.

120 YEAR HISTORY OF THE HANCOCK COUNTY

Public Library