



The Chairman and Board Members

take pleasure in inviting you to
celebrate the opening of

The Augusta Township Public Library

Saturday, August 26, 1995

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

*The
Augusta Township
Public Library*



Grand Opening

Saturday August 26, 1995

10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

A BRIEF HISTORY

Algonquin School, S.S. #11, is located on the North Augusta Road (County Road 15), just south of the Village of Algonquin. The stone school was built in 1833 on the farm of Joseph Wright. Joseph and his twin brother Mark were two of seven sons of Captain Asahel Wright, a staunch Empire Loyalist who received extensive land grants. He owned all the land in Lots 29 and 30, running on both sides of the Maitland Road between the fourth and fifth concession.

The Village of Algonquin was called "Wright's Corners" at that time and Isaiah Wright, Asahel's grandson, acted as Secretary-Treasurer of the Township of Augusta. It was part of his job to pay the salaries of the rural school teachers.

The old Algonquin school was the oldest single room school in continuous use in Ontario for 130 years. It is around the old stone building that the new Augusta Township Public Library is built. So once again the old one-room Algonquin School is being used for the education of young and old alike.

Augusta's first library was opened in 1866 in the North Augusta Public School. In 1913 the library was moved to the teacher's room in the Continuation School for a period of time.

The Augusta Library Board was formed in 1973 and some 19 years later, after several attempts to continue the Library in several different locations, plans were made to construct a completely new library building in 1992. The site chosen was the old Algonquin School property with the intention of using the stone schoolhouse to build the library around. Ground-breaking took place on December 29, 1994. The building project was completed in early July 1995.

The final cost of the project after construction and including new shelves, furniture and landscaping, is expected to be in the neighbourhood of \$380,000 to \$400,000. The Augusta Township Library Board raised \$200,000 for construction, with the remaining \$200,000 coming from a Canada-Ontario Infrastructure Works Grant. The grant money was greatly appreciated by the Library Board.

The Chairman and Board Members extend a big THANK YOU to the many volunteers and contributors from across the Township who gave of their time and monies to help produce such a distinguished edifice.

P R O G R A M

WELCOME

Mr. Mark Darroch - Chairman

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

GUEST SPEAKERS

Hon. Robt. Runciman - M.P.P. - Solicitor General of Ontario

Mr. Jim Jordan - M.P. - Member for Leeds and Grenville

Mr. Adrian VanSchie - Reeve of Augusta Township

FLAG RAISING

Mr. Jim Jordan - M.P. - will raise the National Flag

Hon. Robt. Runciman - M.P.P. - will raise the Provincial Flag

TOLLING OF OLD SCHOOL BELL

Mrs. Violet Edwards will Toll Old School Bell
with help of family

REBBIION CUTTING

Hon. Robt. Runciman - M.P.P.; Mr. Jim Jordan - M.P.;

Mr. Adrian VanSchie - Reeve; Mr. Mark Darroch - Board Member;

and Mrs. Denise Maloney - Chief Librarian

LIBRARY OPEN FOR VIEWING

REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN OLD SCHOOLHOUSE

Board Members 1995-1996-1997

Mark Darroch - Chairman
Duaine McKinley - Vice Chairman
Joanne Edwards - Secretary
Doug Symons - Treasurer
Ed Coons - Board Member
Ivan Dixon - Board Member
John McCrea - Board Member

Denise Maloney - Chief Librarian
Linda Parrott - Librarian



Library Hours

Monday	1 - 8 pm
Tuesday	1 - 8 pm
Wednesday	9:30am - 12 noon
Thursday	1 - 8 pm
Friday	closed
Saturday (October-April)	9:30am - 12 noon

Phone 926-2449

Years of planning pays off

■ By Dorothy Winmill
Special to the Journal

AUGUSTA — After years of planning and preparing by the recently-retired library board members, the new ones who took office following the election and their appointments, and the library staff, the new Augusta Township Public Library will be holding its official opening ceremonies on Sat., Aug. 26.

The library is located on County Road 15, just south of Algonquin.

The ceremonies will take place from 10am to noon, and everyone is invited to come on out and see the new facilities, paid for largely through the efforts of volunteers, fund-raising efforts, bingos and donations. Only \$25,000 of the approximate \$400,000 cost of the library came from the municipality.

Ruth Peters, former teacher at the heritage schoolhouse, which has been incorporated in the new building, remembered the library in her will, leaving \$25,000 for the renovation of the old building.

The 162-year-old one-room schoolhouse will be used for library activities and also rented out to local groups and for community events.

The heritage schoolhouse and the new library have a total of 3,600 square feet for library facilities and other activities.

The grand opening will be attended by officials from various levels of government, the Ontario Library Association (OLA), educational facilities, supporting businesses, organizations, churches and citizens.

A highlight of the day will be the final ringing of the old school bell, which mysteriously reappeared after it had gone missing for 30 years.

This will be another important moment in Augusta Township's interesting history. The Augusta Township Public Library is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1pm to 8pm and Wednesdays from 9:30am to noon. From October to April, it will be open Saturdays from 9:30am to noon as well.



The Augusta Township Library in Algonquin was officially opened last Saturday. The \$368,823 project was funded through the Canada-Ontario Infrastructure Works Program and by the Augusta Township Library Board. Present for the ribbon cutting ceremony are, from left to right, Augusta Township Reeve

Adrian VanSchie, Elaine Gamble, Canada-Ontario Infrastructure Works Program, Leeds-Grenville MPP, the Hon. Bob Runciman, Leeds-Grenville MP Jim Jordan, Mark Darroch Sr., chairman of the Augusta Township Library Board.

Thorpe photo

Augusta's new library officially unveiled

■ By Rich Thorpe
Journal Staff

ALGONQUIN — Close to a decade's worth of hard work was recognized here on Saturday morning as the new Augusta Township Library was officially opened.

The \$368,823 project is the first permanent library built in the Township of Augusta. It was funded through contributions from the library board and the provincial and federal governments through the Canada-Ontario Infrastructure Works program.

Mark Darroch Sr., chairman of the library board, spoke of the long and arduous struggle to get the project up and going.

"At some points I thought that this day would never happen," Mr. Darroch said, alluding to the controversy which surfaced last fall over the final cost of the project.

Mr. Darroch thanked the whole host of volunteers past and present especially proud of is that the design incorporates the old Algonquin school house S.S.#11 which was in use from 1833 to 1962, Mr. Darroch said.

"You as residents of Augusta Township and the area are very fortunate indeed to have such a fine facility."

Leeds-Grenville MP Jim Jordan pointed to the library as an example of how successful the Canada-Ontario Infrastructure program has proven to be.

"The infrastructure program has proven to be successful, almost too successful," he said adding that the number of funding applications outpaced the money available for the program.

"The infrastructure program helped make this happen a little sooner than it probably would have," Mr. Jordan said.

Mr. Jordan commented on the technology available at the library which allows members to access in-

formation and resources without having to head to a larger centre.

"This library is a lot more than books," he said. "You have brought it back into your community and you did a super job."

Reeve Adrian VanSchie praised the library board for persisting through controversy and criticism to get the project built.

"(The library board) put the project all together," he said. "They designed it from the bottom up."

"The library will contribute to the education and recreation of township residents for many years to come."

News & Views

Prescott Journal
Oct-4/95

from Augusta Township

by Dorothy Winmill

Canadian Legion.

Maitland Women's Institute - Meets Oct. 12. Hostesses are Marjorie McCann and Helen Wilson. Topic is International Affairs presented by Hilda Langstaff. Roll Call will be answered by the name(s) of other countries you have visited outside of Canada? Clara Baas will bring the Smile of the Day. Everyone welcome. For more information call 348-3226 or 345-1040.

What's New At The Library - Story hour will be held at the Augusta Township Public Library on Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 10am. The library is located at Algonquin.

The theme of the Story Hours will be "Autumn" and the librarians have all kinds of great stories, fingerplays, nursery rhymes, and other fun things lined up to do.

A really excellent read on the shelves now is "The Women's Encyclopedia of Health and emotional Healing". Top women doctors share their unique self-help advice on your body, feelings and life. The authors are Denise Foley, Eileen Nechas, and the editors of Prevention Magazine.

I picked up this book to read at 8pm, intending to browse through it for an hour. At 11pm I closed the covers having read it all the way through. I couldn't seem to put it down. I learned a number of new facts from the 499 pages on 89 different subjects.

At my young age (smile here), so much of what I read related to my life experiences, past, present, and probably future. I found it most relevant. Decisions I'd had to make, emotions I'd had to deal with, were discussed and I felt my decisions were affirmed. This is a book for every woman to read.

Jeanne A. Petrek, M.D., Breast Cancer Surgeon at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Centre, calls it "A great book about womanhood, it fills the gaps and completes the picture."

As of October 7 and to April, the

library hours are as follows: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays 1-8pm and Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9:30am until noon.

There is no charge to residents of Augusta Township to borrow at the library. Call 926-2449 for information or to volunteer at the library, or help with library projects.



AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

R.R. #2, Brockville
Ontario K6V 5T2
926-2449

October 10, 1995

Dear Volunteer :

You are cordially invited to attend a Wine and Cheese Party to honour those who volunteered their time and energy towards the building and support of the Augusta Township Public Library.

The members of the Board and myself will be pleased to have you join us on the evening of October 25th, 1995 in the Library, starting at seven o'clock.

We would appreciate your intention to attend by phoning the Library any Tuesday or Wednesday morning by calling 926-2449.

Thank-you for your continued interest, I remain,
yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark".

Mark Darroch
Chairman,
Augusta Township Public Library
R.R. #2, Brockville, Ont. K6V 5T2

off with her guess that the giant gourd weighed *Prescott Journal - Nov. 1/95* Chagnon photo

Library Board thanks its volunteers

AUGUSTA - The Augusta Township Public Library Board held an informal wine and cheese party last Wednesday (Oct. 25) to honour all those who volunteered their time, labour and donations to the building of the new library.

Chairman Mark Darroch expressed his appreciation to the volunteers on behalf of the board members. He gave special thanks to those who helped move the many books from the old building and reshelfed them in the new one. Thanks was also given to all that laid the turf during the hot days of July and to the Augusta Volunteer Fire Department for watering down the sod.

Mr. Darroch expressed the board's gratitude to the estate of Mrs. Ruth Peters, who left \$25,000

to restore the old one-room Algonquin school.

"The old stone school was in continuous use for 130 years and now after laying dormant for 33 years it is again revived towards learning," Mr. Darroch said.

He thanked all who helped with the Bingo games, the profits being spent towards the many needs of the new library.

Special certificates were presented to the volunteers present. The rest will be mailed to those who could not attend. There are more than 100 volunteers registered.

The library, under the care of qualified librarians, is now open to all residents of Augusta Township at no cost. Many programs are in progress, with some very interesting ones being planned for the future.

One of these is tole painting. It is hoped that a learning program for the adult illiterate will also come into effect very shortly.

The "old school room" is open for club meetings or for rent to individual clubs or groups at reasonable rates.

Craft sale

MORRISBURG - Upper Canada Playhouse, in Morrisburg, will kick off the holiday season with a craft sale on Saturday (Nov. 4). The "Beat the Rush Christmas Craft Sale" will be held at Seaway District High School, in Iroquois, from 9:30am to 4pm. Admission is \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children. All proceeds go to the Upper Canada Playhouse.

Milkcrust dies at age 81

Recorder Times - Nov. 24, 1995

Augusta library needs volunteers

ALGONQUIN — Augusta Township Public Library's expansion and increasing use as a community centre have created a desperate need for volunteers willing to work there in the evenings and help with community programs and fund-raising efforts.

Membership has risen dramatically since the new library opened last July. Circulation in October doubled over the previous month.

Volunteers are needed for a couple of hours Monday and Thursday nights to shelve books and help library patrons.

The library needs volunteers to help run its fund-raising bingos once every three months, and particularly for the bingo on November 24 and again on December 22, 8:30 p.m. to midnight.

WANTS TO OFFER LITERACY PROGRAM

An important community project the library wants to offer is a literacy program. Volunteers interested in helping others learn to read will be trained by the Leeds and Grenville County Board of Education. Four people have already signed up, but more are needed.

Anyone thinking of volunteering in any of these areas may call either Denise Maloney, chief librarian, or her assistant, Linda Parrott, at 926-2449 during library hours.

The library will offer a story hour for children three to five years of age every Wednesday in December, starting December 6 at 10 a.m. The reader is Kathleen Donnelly. Call the library to register your child.

An introductory bridge course will be offered weekly January 9 through February 13 in the library's activity room. For more information or registration, call Dianne Bullis at 926-0218 by December 18.

The library's meeting rooms are available at reasonable rates for both profit and non-profit organizations. Call the library to make arrangements.

Augusta Township Public Library is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 1-8 p.m., and Wednesday and Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-noon. For information, call 926-2449.

Volunteers appreciated

News & Views

from Augusta Township

by Dorothy Winmill

Augusta Township Public Library will be closed Christmas week and will reopen on Tues., Jan. 2, 1996.

The December Story Hour for children three to five years of age is being very well attended. Every Wednesday morning at 10am, reader Kathleen Donnelly has been introducing the boys and girls to some of the delightful story books available for their age group.

The recent response to the request for volunteers to work in the library was most rewarding and appreciated. Librarian Denise Maloney stated that "if it wasn't for the work of the volunteers the library would not be able to continue operating." Sincere thanks goes to all those new volunteers, and continuing gratitude to the long-time volunteers; Lois Byrnes, Joan Geary, Marie Majors, Kathleen Donnelly, Jean Lyons, Connie Whitehorne and Marilyn Cybulski, as well as the students from Grenville Christian College who have been working here during 1995.

The next Augusta Township Public Library Fundraising Bingo will be held on Fri., Dec. 22 from 8:30pm to midnight, at 866 Chelsea St., Brockville.

Those who can't help at the library may be interested in being volunteers at the bingos, once every three months. For further information about this please call the library at 926-2449 during the library hours on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 1pm to 8pm or Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9:30am to noon.

The six-week course "Introduction to Bridge" will run from Jan. 9 to Feb. 13. For further information, call Dianne Bullis, 926-0218.

The Southern Ontario Library System (SOLS) has had a very sub-

interesting, challenging, and fun in which to participate. You'll hear more about these as times goes on.

For instance, plans are in the works now for a fundraising sleigh ride beginning and ending at the library with refreshments. All donations from this event, and other fundraising events will go toward the library.

The Board of Education is providing a literacy instruction program for those interested in working with others to help them learn to read or improve their reading skills. This will begin mid-January. If you wish to make a commitment to this important volunteer work, please call the library at 926-2449 as soon as possible and find out more about it.

Do you have a sick child at home? The library has super Get Well Kits available to help them pass the weary hours of recovery. Just ask the librarians about them.

Another "Beginners Tole Painting Course" is to begin on Tues., Jan 23. It will be led by Leah Valiquette. The classes will be held every Tuesday from 9am to noon (\$48), or from 6:30pm to 9:30pm (\$51). The registration covers the cost of three wood pieces, registration, some parts, and supplies. The final day for registration is Jan. 9.

New on the shelves is "The Christmas Box" by Richard Paul Evans. It has 142 pages of quick read large print, and is the touching story of a widow and the young family who moves in with her. Together they discover the first gift of Christmas and learn what Christmas is about. "Christmas Box" is a Christmas story unlike any other!

"Five Days In Paris" is in the tradition of Danielle Steele's other exciting books, "Wings" and

Record & Times - March 6/96

Augusta defers capital projects in 1996 budget

By JULIANNA STRUTHERS

Staff Writer

MAYNARD — Capital projects are on hold in Augusta Township as council struggles to keep expenditures down in its 1996 budget.

Council had to dip into reserve funds last year — to the tune of \$275,000 — in order to cover capital projects.

Reeve Adrian VanSchie noted the township completed the construction of the Stephenson Bridge, purchased a new fire truck and installed a 911 service addressing system. And while these endeavors were all worthwhile, they have left the township's coffers depleted.

VanSchie said council should refrain from committing itself to big projects for the time being, at least until the financial picture has been assessed for 1996. All signs indicate it won't be a pretty one.

The township has already been told it will lose at least 18 per cent in provincial funding this year — about \$165,000, or six per cent less than the cut council anticipated.

Pay equity compensation being paid to three township employees in 1996 will cost about \$60,000 alone.

"It recognizes the value of our female staff, so it's the proper thing to do. They deserve to earn the equivalent amount as their male counterparts. But it's an expense that comes on top of everything else. Right off the bat, it's something we have to deal with," VanSchie said at Tuesday night's regular council meeting.

The head librarian for the township is receiving a payout of \$25,500, compensating for being underpaid since 1990. The assistant clerk receives \$27,000, covering a retroactive period to 1993. The payout to the assistant librarian, a part-time employee, is \$5,100.

Even with all these financial burdens, VanSchie said he recognizes there is little tolerance among ratepayers for tax increases. Council is aiming for no increase in the mill rate, but realistically ratepayers can expect a hike of 1.5 to two per cent, he said.

That will likely mean the much-needed work on such roads as Cedar Street, Lords Mills, McAuley and Rocky Road won't get done this year. Nor is council prepared to go ahead with an extensive cleanup of the South Nation River, which alone could cost up to \$200,000.

VanSchie said the township needs to build up its reserve funds before tackling any more large projects.

"All impacts on our revenue source should be completely evaluated prior to any future commitments," he said.

Recorder & Times - Mar. 8, 1996

Library usage up in Augusta

MAYNARD (Staff) — Putting a new face on the Augusta Township library in Algonquin has made it attractive in more ways than one.

Memberships have increased almost 50 per cent since the facility was renovated last summer.

There are now 1,408 people using the library on a regular basis compared to 963 back in June of 1995.

"That's what we were looking for is more participation and we certainly got it," said township councillor Duaine McKinley.

In the meantime, book circulation is also way up and steadily climbing. In January and February of this year 4,669 books were borrowed from the library, up from 3,338 circulated the same time last year, a difference of 40 per cent.

Township residents are also making use of the meeting room located in the old schoolhouse, which is part of the library. There were 37 meetings held in the room in the first two months of the year.

The library board has also been successful at recruiting extra help. There are now 10 volunteers performing such tasks as re-shelving books, processing new and used books and sorting and filing cards. In total they have committed 166 hours to the library so far this year.

Closing book on POWI

When a former powerful organization closes its books on a successful objective and turns the balance of its bank account over to our Augusta Public Library, it brings back the memories of that group known as POWI, formed to keep ENSCO out of the area.

This was the pleasure the Augusta Library Board had Wednesday, March 6 when three members of the executive of POWI — Ken Forrest, Mildred Livingston and Gunther Haase — made the presentation.

As the former reeve during that hectic year, and now a member of the library board, I want to say thank you for their help and dedication, and may their donation buy suitable material to inform our children.

E.P. Coons
Maitland

Recorder & Times - Mar. 14/96