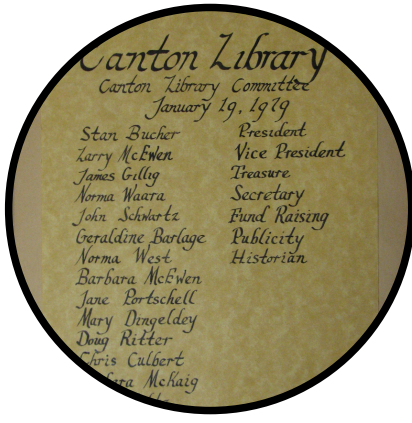




# CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY THROUGH THE YEARS

The people of Canton Township began raising funds for a community library. A library committee was established to prepare for a millage proposal. In 1979, voters went to the polls in a special election to decide the fate of a one-mill library funding request, which passed. With this approval, the Canton Public Library became a reality for the citizens of Canton.

## 1977



## 1980

On October 12, the 12,000 square foot Canton Public Library opened on the unused third floor of the Canton Township Administration Building. The library was dedicated on November 9 and Deborah O'Connor served as its first director.

On June 14, the library circulated its one millionth item. Renovations were made which included a quiet study area, more nonfiction shelving, a young adult area and an audio-visual room that housed an Apple computer, Microfilm equipment, filmstrip and cassette machines. In 1985, Jean Tabor became the new director.

## 1984



## 1988

Supported by voters in a 1986 millage, a new building, now 31,500 square feet and housing 149,000 volumes, opened and was dedicated on November 13.

George H. W. Bush visits the library during a public campaign rally. Several employees met him and shook his hand. He even signed our guest book.

## 1992



## 2001

The library expanded to its current size of 53,000 square feet. The expansion included a state-of-the-art internet training room, three small group study rooms, a new room specifically for young adults, a room for miscellaneous equipment including four-word processing stations, a quiet reading room for the Youth Department, 67 additional public parking spaces, and a spectacular new Children's Library.

Canton Public Library celebrates its 25th Anniversary. In 2008, Eva Davis becomes the new library director.

## 2005

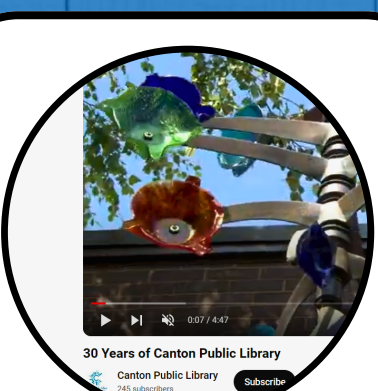
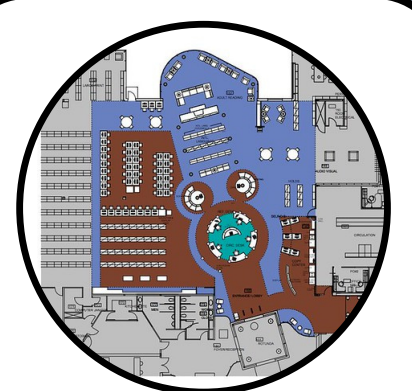


Canton Public Library wins a LibraryAware Community Award. The award emphasized CPL's work in engaging with the community.

## 2013

## 2014

Canton Public Library begins a Patron Service Improvement Project, a series of renovations that continue through 2017, captured in these photo albums: [Phase I](#), [Phase II](#), [Phase III](#), [Phase IV](#).



Our current building celebrates its 30th Anniversary, commemorated by a superb video tribute.

## 2018

## 2019

The library goes back to the 1980s and opens a time capsule buried underneath the lobby.

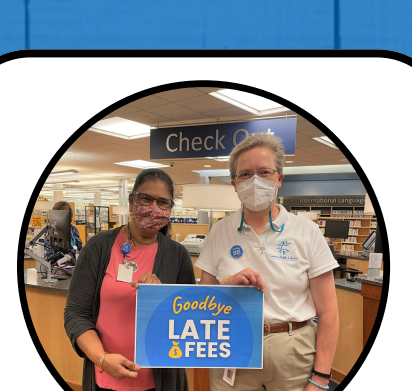


The library closes for just over 12 weeks at the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, reopening on June 8, 2020 and returning to full operating hours on June 1, 2021.

## 2020

## 2022

Canton Public Library eliminates late fees on overdue materials.



Mark your calendars—we're getting ready to celebrate Canton Public Library's 50th Anniversary!

## 2030