



DeKalb News Sun 6/12/81
DeKalb Kids Get Ready For Summer 'Safari' 36

NEWSphoto by Jim Cook Jr.

Petting a fawn is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for most of today's suburban children. These youngsters had the unusual opportunity Monday when Yellow River Game Ranch owner Art Rilling brought a collection of baby animals to Avis Williams Library in Decatur. Eight-day-old Prance, who obviously was the star of the show, had been found abandoned in the woods and taken to Rilling for safe-keeping. Rilling also brought other woodland babies — a beaver, bobcat, screech owl and o'possum — for the children to see. It was all part of the library's kick-off of the annual summer reading program, the theme of which is "Summer Safari."

10th Library Branch Opens in DeKalb

By DOROTHY NIX

The DeKalb library system, largest regional facility in Georgia, has added a 10th branch, the Avis G. Williams Branch, at 1891 Clairmont Road.

"I wish it were the 100th," Commission Chairman Brince Manning told an overflow crowd of residents of the Clairmont-LaVista area gathered for dedication ceremonies.

Chairman Manning said libraries are important in the expanding program of the county because such facilities made possible continuing education for all citizens.

"Last year 1,273,229 books were circulated, an average of four for every man, woman and child of reading age in the county," he said.

The DeKalb library system includes two bookmobiles and branches in Newton and Rockdale counties in addition to the 10 DeKalb County branches.

MRS. H. R. WILLIAMS, for whom the new library branch is named, said, "I am humbly appreciative that it bears my name."

She said a library had been a

community dream for as long as the past decade. A community leader, she worked in many ways to make that dream come true. When she was president of the LaVista Woman's Club that group chose to work for the library as a 1961 project.

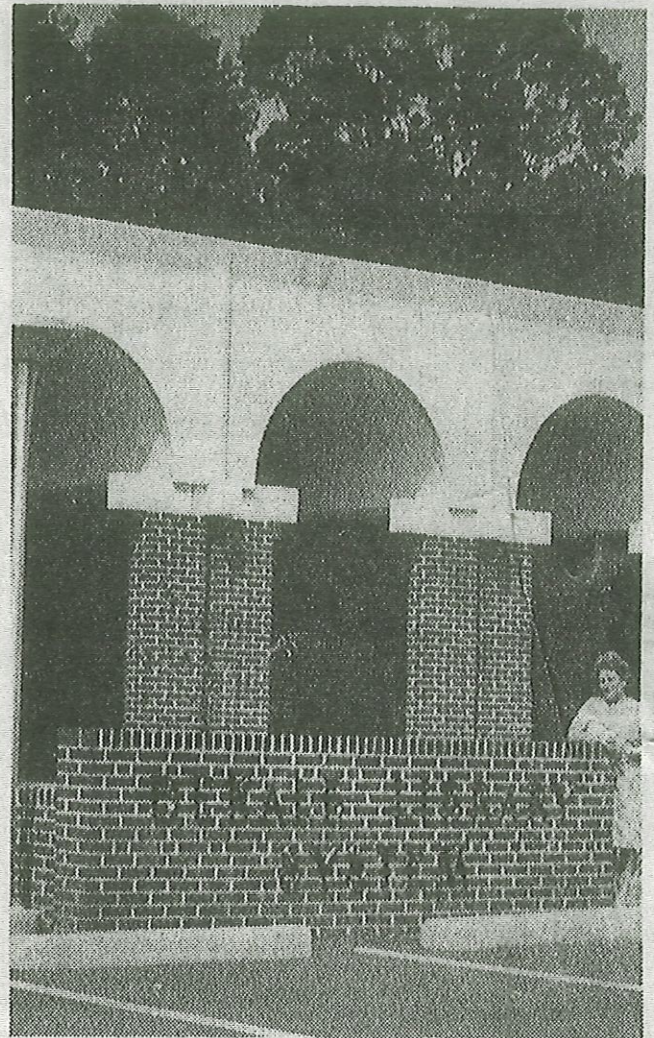
More recently, Mrs. Williams was chairman of the committee that searched out the site for the new building. William Thibadeau and the late Mrs. Julian Harris were other members.

Louise Trotti, director of the DeKalb library system, said much community effort had aided the new branch. The LaVista Lions Club furnished the meeting room which will be available to community organizations. LaVista Junior Woman's Club has given books and other assistance.

Sagamore Hills Garden Clubs Council furnished the flower arrangements for the opening ceremonies.

Miss Trotti introduced Mrs. A. B. Burrus, former director of the library system, for whom the Maud M. Burrus Library on Sycamore Street is named. Mrs. Burrus headed the system for 32 years.

The new library branch is one



Staff Photo—Guy Hayes

MRS. W. H. ROBERTS AT NEW LIBRARY BRANCH
She's Librarian at Newest DeKalb Facility

of three facilities built with bond funds and completed in the last few years. It cost approximately \$180,000. It has been stocked with 12,000 volumes, mostly in the reference and non-fiction category. More will be added as funds are available, Miss Trotti said.

NO OTHER BRANCHES are in the building stage now but Miss Trotti said a new library headquarters processing center on Kensington Road will, when completed, release all space in the Maud M. Burrus Library for public service.

Mrs. William H. Roberts is librarian for the Avis G. Williams branch. Mrs. Marjorie W. Sherrod and Mrs. Marion G. Wynn are assistant librarians assigned to the new facility.

The library will be open Mon-

day, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.