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Cofer Library Begins Friends Group

Rada Merlino and Kathleen Brooks fill out application forms to join the Friends of the Cofer Library. The first organizational meeting will be January 25 at 7 p.m. at the Cofer Library. For more information, phone 938-5022.

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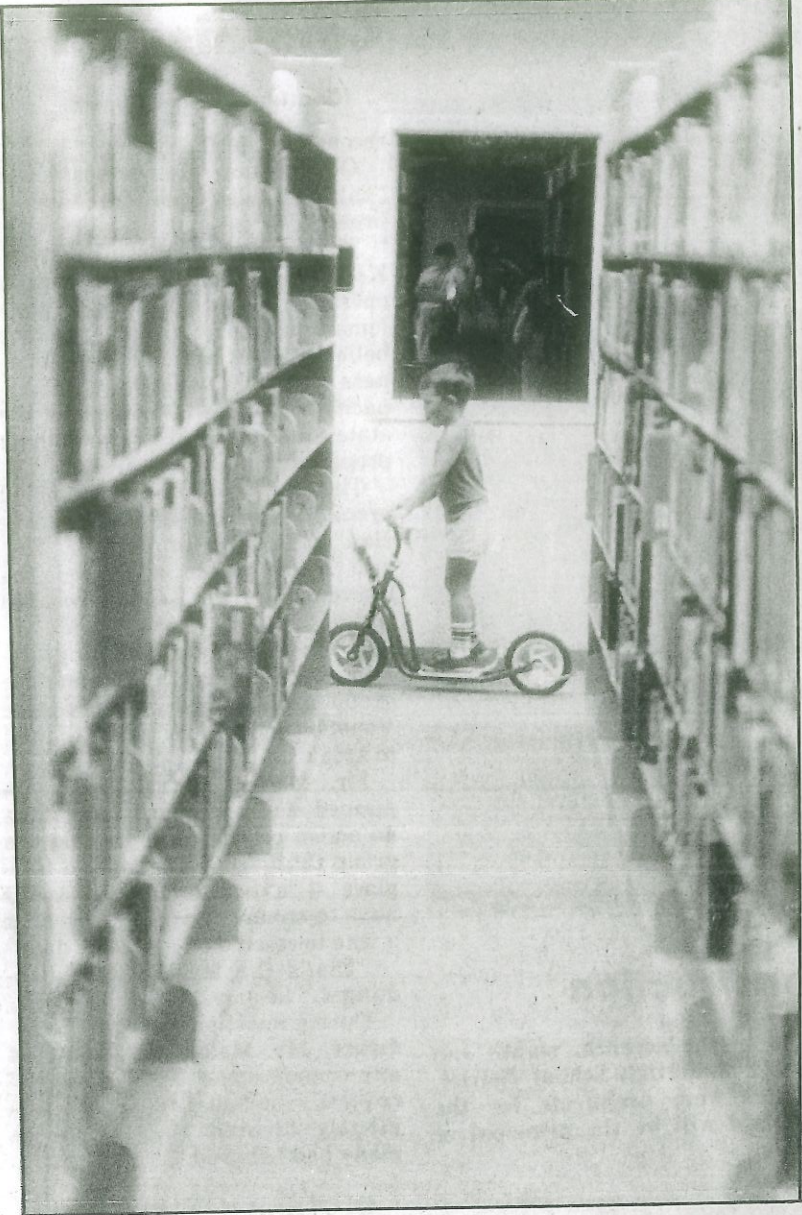
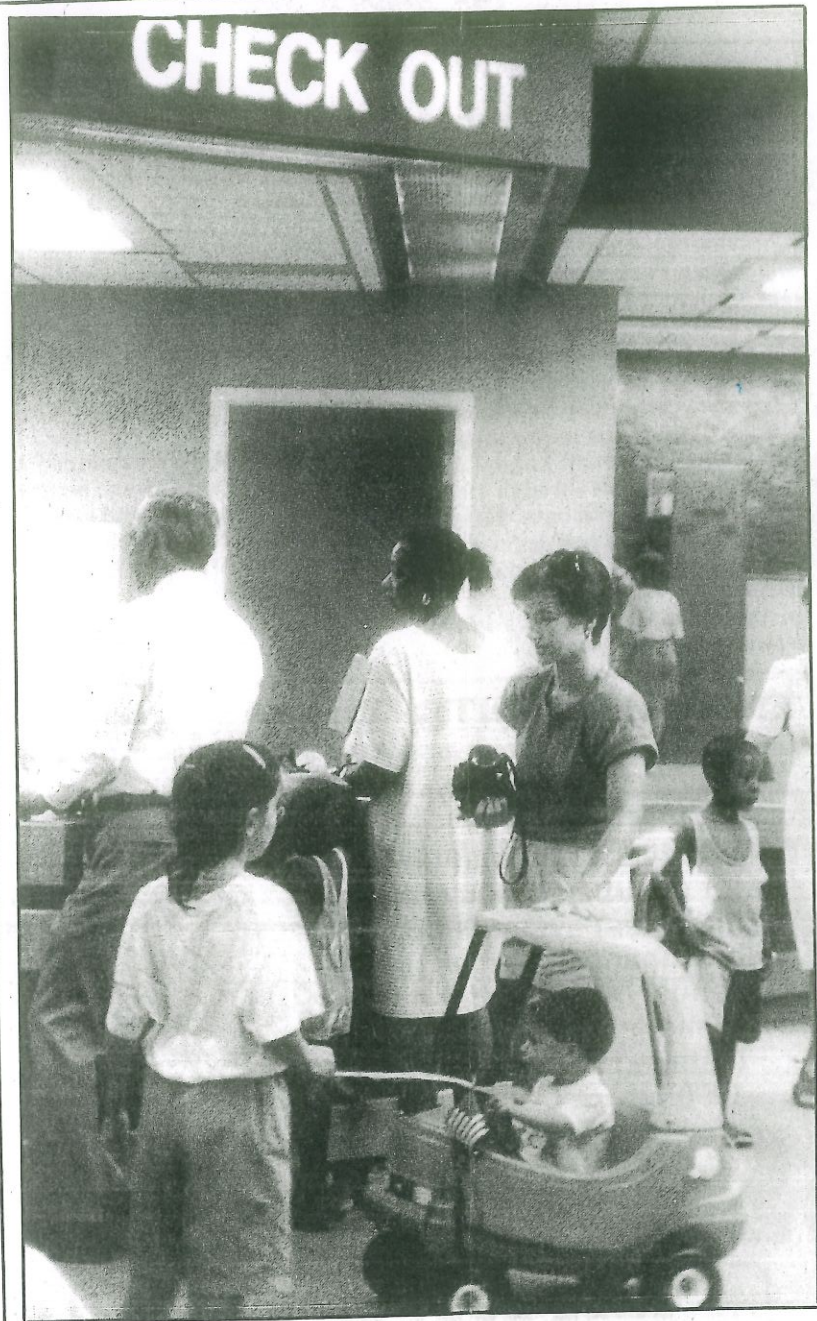
Uncut 'Ten Com Planned At Ch

The First United Methodist Church of Chamblee will show the uncut, three-hour version of Cecil B. Demille's *Ten Commandments* on Sunday, Jan. 31 at 5:45 p.m. The film stars Charlton Heston, Yul Brynner, Anne Baxter and Edward G. Robinson. A free-will offering will be taken.

North DeKalb Musi Two Are Winners A

The North DeKalb Music Teachers' Association will meet on Thursday, Jan. 21 at 9:30 a.m. to hear a program by Joe Meeks of Kennesaw College. Mr. Meeks will speak on "Ornamentation is Not Op-

TIM D. SCHUBERT



NEWSphotos By Kirk Martin

Heavy Traffic In The Stacks

Circulation took on a new meaning at the Reid H. Cofer Library in Tucker last week when the library staff invited young children in the area to celebrate the nation's birthday by joining in a parade — both inside the library building and out — on their favorite riding toys. Jonathon Martin, above, with his mother Diane Martin, wheels past the checkout desk in his compact machine, accompanied by his mother, as Kevin Mann, above right, speeds through the "stacks" on his



DeKalb To Get First Libraries In 18 Years

By SHERRON MARTINEZ

It's been 18 years since DeKalb's gotten a new library. Though county population has multiplied, per capita shelf space has not kept pace.

But it might not be long now, according to county library director Barbara Loar, because plans are in the works for two major expansions, one store-front branch and one brand new district library, she said.

The district library, slated to cost more than \$1 million will be funded jointly by the City of Chamblee (where it will be located), DeKalb County, and the State of Georgia, she said.

"The City of Chamblee and the County Commissioners obviously agree that libraries are needed and have taken these first giant steps," she said.

"They are most forward-looking," she said, adding that the two governments will provide approximately \$400,000.

Included in the state Department of Education budget for the coming year, she said, is an allocation for construction of the Chamblee District branch.

The state legislature, Mrs. Loar said, has never turned down a request for library construction.

BESIDES funding for the Chamblee library, a state budget request will be included for a major expansion of the Sue Kellogg Library in Stone Mountain.

The 3,000-square-foot facility will grow to 10,000 square feet, Mrs. Loar said, adding that the project will cost about \$500,000.

Friends of the Sue Kellogg Library have already raised \$3,000, she said and the county has allocated \$50,000.

Presently underway is a "Buy a Brick" campaign," for adult donations, and a "Buy a Pebble" campaign for young readers' nickels, dimes, and dollars.

THE REID Cofer Library in Tucker will also get a lot of new shelf space as it expands to occupy space presently taken by Tucker Recreation Center.

The new space will be about triple the old, Mrs. Loar said, and will permit many activities presently impossible in the tiny one-room facility.

The Library Board will ask for county funding next year to complete the renovations necessary,



Libraries Are About To Grow In DeKalb

Dr. W.C. Brown, left, chairman of the DeKalb Library System Board of Trustees, and Marshall Walker, the library system's administrative assistant, look over plans for the expansion of Reid Cofer Library in Tucker. The Cofer expansion is just one of several being planned for DeKalb in the near future.

though the library will be able to take over the new space in early November.

FOR THE first time, DeKalb will most likely have a library south of Interstate-20, a major goal of Mrs. Loar and Library Board Members.

In this year's county budget, she said, there is a funding request for a shopping center library in south DeKalb and for county money to purchase land for a large library there.

"Libraries are more than books and shelves," she said. "They are a symbol of a community's commitment to education and information on a continuing basis."

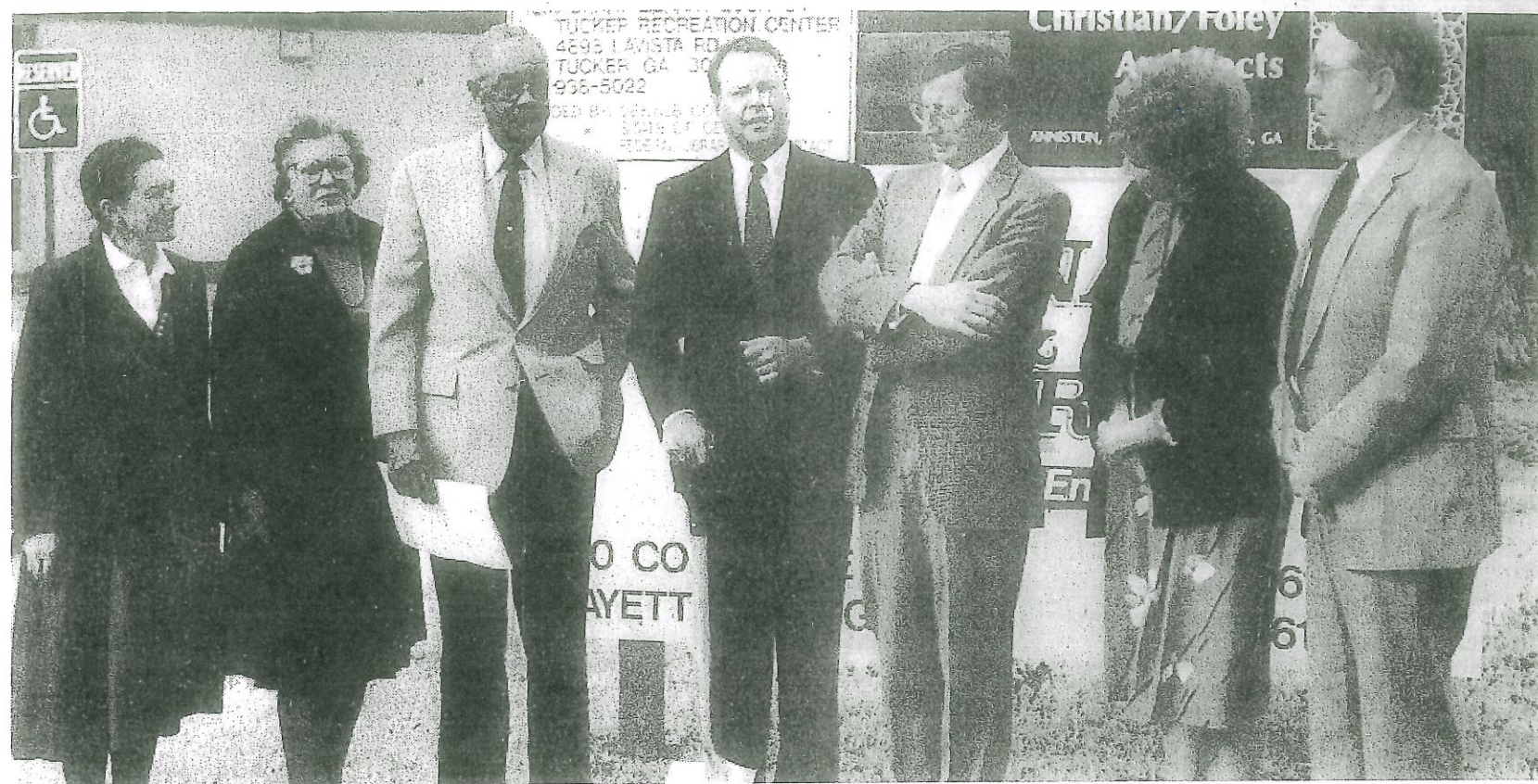
DeKalb County, she said, is second in population in the state, yet does not have the recommended square footage of library space.

"We have a highly educated community; there's a lot to be done, but we have a lot of support too.

"People in this county don't just want libraries; they want the best with high technology and all sorts of

information in all forms," she said. "As far as I'm concerned, I have the public library job with the greatest potential and excitement in the state," Mrs. Loar said.

*Cofer Library
Tucker*



Library To Concentrate Child Collection In Tucker

DeKalb News Era - Dec. 16/19

Long-range plans for the DeKalb County Public Library include the development of the Reid H. Cofer Library as the county's premier children's library. It will provide extensive services, sources and programming to the public providing materials to assist other librarians, educators and children's specialists to develop and implement reading programs for children, according to a library system announcement.

To accomplish this plan, retrospective materials providing reference, in-depth theory and educational support on children's literature will be moved from the Maud M. Burrus Library in Decatur to the Cofer Library in the next few months.

Mrs. Mary McReynolds, the county's senior children's librarian, will also move to the Cofer Library to develop and manage this collection and the expanded children's services. A more current and updated children's collection, specifically designed for the Decatur community, will be developed for the Burrus Library when it reopens after a major building renovation and addition. The library is currently looking for a children's librarian for the Burrus Library.

"We are excited about the in-

creased opportunities these changes will provide county residents," said Julie Hunter, administrative librarian in charge of public services. "Once the children's collection is centralized at the Cofer Library, children's specialists across the county will have greater access to the support materials they need. In addition, the change will create more space for an enriched specialized collection of children's books at the Burrus Library in Decatur," she said.

An additional segment of the library's long-range plan will see the renovation and expansion of the Burrus Library. The new facility will have a five-story addition as well as a two-story parking deck. Plans have been developed for the new building, and architects are currently completing their drawings.

During the renovation library materials will be housed in the old Revenue Collections building on East Court Square in Decatur. Although space will be limited, plans are to move over half the current collection. Books to be moved will be selected by the librarian based on the needs of the community. Books from each department will be available in the temporary facility.



Garden Club History Presented

Pal Garner, left, receives a book for Reid H. Cofer Library in Tucker, from Joann Hopper, president of Evergreen Garden Club. The book is "The Sixty Year History of Garden Clubs."

*Dec. / DeKalb
News Era
4/27/89*

\$450,000 expansion of Reid Cofer scheduled for mid-1987

Because of a state matching fund grant approved by the Georgia General Assembly, Reid Cofer Library in Tucker will soon be larger, quieter and better able to serve more people.

The \$450,000 grant will add approximately 11,000-square-feet to the old Tucker Elementary School on LaVista Road where the library is now housed. Money will be used to expand and furnish the library facilities. The expansion is slated for completion by mid-1987.

"We had not anticipated anything to start until winter or summer of 1987," Cofer librarian Melinda Wolfe said.

Ms. Wolfe said the expansion to the windowed area of the main building will mean more programs will be added and meeting space will be expanded. Standing room only conditions, now a common problem, will be alleviated as well, she said.

Although the money is earmarked for building improvements and not for books, the added space will allow for the purchase for additional books.

Barbara Loar, director of the DeKalb Library System, praised the Library Friends for their efforts in 1984 to persuade county commissioners to expand the library. The old property at 4316 Church St. was formerly shared by the library and the Tucker Recreation Center, now located on LaVista.

Ms. Loar announced expansion plans at the Feb. 20 meeting of the Friends of Reid Cofer Library meeting.

Membership dues are \$5 a year.



In the soon-to-be-renovated hallway of Reid Cofer Library, Hilda Bell, left, and Melinda Wolfe talk over future library plans. (Staff photo by Jerry Finlay)

indexed



DeKalb Neighbor
March 12, 1986

Staff photo by Jerry Finlay

COFER LIBRARY TO BLOSSOM: Hilda Bell, vice president of Library Friends, and librarian Melinda Wolfe ^{indeed} discuss changes they anticipate for the Reid Cofer Library.