

July 5 1983

— photo by Vienna Badiuk

by Vienna Badiuk

Pages flipped quietly.

Some adults were seated at the long tables, while others browsed through the stacks.

A few children scurried between their parents and their favorite book, although most had filed into the meeting room which offered the "Set Sail for Summer Reading" program.

That was the scene last week.

The site was the newly opened Henderson Branch Library located at the south end of the Rossmere Shopping Centre.

"It's more of a community facility than just the traditional image people would have," noted Heather Graham, area librarian.

"It's a community use facility."

For one thing, the move from the basement of the shopping centre increased the library space by 50 per cent to over 12,000 square feet.

The interior was designed to provide area for many activities, from casual browsing to

serious study.

"We're really excited to have lounge area for the public," said Graham.

Recalling the lunch counter which used to be quite a congregational point at the old Co-op Shopping Centre, she pointed out that the front lounge of the library is also a community gathering spot, with seating space for 12 to 13 people.

In the future, this spot will have display cubicles and space will permit the showing of local art.

Graham mentioned the efforts of the River East Art and Craft Association and the rotating prints from the Winnipeg Art Gallery as two groups which will probably be featured.

Vending machines are also a possibility.

A large community bulletin board specifically for the publicity of events in Elmwood, North and East Kildonan activities will also be available.

New books are located near the entrance, as well as a coin-operated photocopier.

The children's area has low shelves and plenty of seating.

The meeting room, which can hold approximately 60 people has been set up for class visits, story hours or film shows.

At the cost of \$10 it may be rented by the public for meetings.

"We also hope to have a series of programs there, initially probably in connection with the River East school division continuing education department," said Graham.

At the entrance a book drop allows the return of materials at all hours.

"We've already attracted people who couldn't use the library when it was in the basement," Graham stated.

The new library has a ramp at the front of the building, allowing wheelchair access.

Summer library hours are 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

Call 338-7819 for further information.