

“Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one.” —Neil Gaiman

April 2021

## Making Friends with: New Library Director Colleen Haubner



### What’s your link to Anoka County Library?

When I was recently searching out a new opportunity, I found myself on the Anoka County website. When I researched what they were looking for in a Library Director, it was a perfect match! I am so fortunate to have this opportunity—it not only matches my skill set, but it is also my passion to find ways to serve the community on a higher level!

### What’s the first library you remember visiting?

The (former) Ramsey County Library in New Brighton—I was about 5 years old. I have fond memories of puppet shows, crafts, and storytimes.

### What’s your favorite place at the library?

I love going to the Centennial Library and sitting in the fun chairs near the windows, reading and basking in the sun.

### If we peek in your bag, what will we find?

*The Listening Path* by Julia Cameron, for a small book club I am a part of. The other book in my bag is a mystery by James Patterson.

### What book has changed your life?

About eight years ago I read *Finding Your Own North Star* by Martha Beck. It really changed my perspective on how I was seeing myself and limiting my success. It opened my eyes and ears to stop listening to the negative voice, or “lizard” as Martha Beck refers to it, and replacing it with a more positive narrative. Using the technique in the book helped me attract positive energy and confidence.

## Did you know?

Anoka County Library has over 100 **Book Club in a Bag** kits available for check out. Each kit contains eight books and related discussion questions in a folder. Kits may be checked out for six weeks and may be requested like other library materials.

**CreativeBug** offers online video arts and crafts workshops and techniques. Using your library card, you can access this resource to learn how to paint, knit, crochet, sew, screen print, and more! Download the Anoka County Library App and select “Online Resources” to learn more!

## Branching out: Centennial Library

*Our Anoka County Library system has many wonderful branches! We're featuring a different branch with each newsletter, so you can get to know a little about each one.*

My home library is Centennial in Circle Pines. Using the word “home” seems fitting, since it’s been my library for over twenty years! It first opened in 1957, then merged with the ACL in 1959. In June of 2019, it reopened after a ten-month renovation, which doubled its size. Besides its beautiful interior, it’s surrounded by a stunning flower garden, woody walking and biking trails, a newly remodeled playground, and a community garden.

On the inside, comfy study rooms, a gorgeous fireplace, a spacious children’s area, and a state-of-the-art IQ Kitchen are just some of the features. While currently limited to virtual classes, the IQ kitchen has hosted cooking classes for all ages. The Centennial Library also holds what might be the most unique item for check out ... cake pans! The Friends have hosted a cupcake-decorating class for kids and hope to support more events soon.



It’s difficult to choose a favorite feature, but for many it’s sure to be the Community Room. With a capacity of ninety people, it’s hosted an astronomy program by Mike Lynch, songwriting classes, storytimes, business meetings, a “Star Wars” themed

escape room, author chats, and even one patron who loves the large space for her quilting. It truly is a gem in our community! Next time you’re on the way to the library, try checking out a new branch!



## National Library Week

National Library Week is April 4-10. It is a time to celebrate our nation's libraries and library workers' contributions. During the pandemic, library workers have continued to exceed their communities' demands and adapted to meet their users' needs. Libraries offer endless opportunities to transform lives through education and lifelong learning. You can support Anoka County Library by joining the Friends as a member, volunteer, or board member. Donations are appreciated; your investment supports library programming and resources. Learn more—connect with the Friends!

- ▶ Online: <https://bit.ly/3olGT3J>
- ▶ On Facebook: <https://bit.ly/37LzeWT>
- ▶ By email: [FriendsofAnokaCoLib@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofAnokaCoLib@gmail.com)
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**The Friends of the Anoka County Library raises funds for and increases awareness of Anoka County Library in its mission to connect community to ideas, information, and inspiration. We are an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.**