John Moorman

Decatur City Library 247 East North Street Decatur, IL 62523-1128

August 9, 1995

Dear Mr. Moorman,

I would like to request to address the Library Board of Trustees at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 17, 1995 during the public comments time.

Today, I spoke with Joan Bauer about the possibility of allowing the periodicals that are currently recycled be offered for sale to the public at the Library annual sale in September at the Decatur Civic Center. The periodicals in question currently are carted off to be recycled after a certain period of time because the library doesn't have the physical space to store all of the back issues. Many of these periodicals and newspapers such as Spiegel, Le Monde and other specialized magazines retain their worth and relevance well beyond a few years.

Joan Bauer regrets that the library doesn't have enough staffing. However, I feel that the Library is overlooking an excellent opportunity in not using more people who perform community service at the library as part of their probation requirement Obviously, not all functions can be performed by community service workers.

Secondly, I would like to address the issue as to why the library's project to catalogue and maintain a newspaper archive doesn't seem to be going anywhere. Newsworthy items from the daily Herald & Review maintained and indexed would be a great asset to researchers and the public wanting information that was published in the past. Clipping and indexing the newspaper would be ideally suited for those who are referred to the library for community service. Yesterday's news on microfilm is practically useless without a specific date and subject index. Perhaps the library can explore this further if the library receives additional staffing. Sincerely Yours,

Steven Kent Luker