

Library copes with buckets and books this year

By Kym Liebler

There are a few employees in Lansing who appreciate the dry weather this summer.

Had this summer been a rainy one, the staff at Lansing's Public Library would have had more buckets than books to contend with.

For this reason, the Lansing Library Board has approved hiring an architect to analyze what work needs to be done and to recommend how it should be done.

"It's the first step," commented Jan Bojda, director of the library. "Hopefully, we'll have a new roof by this time next year."

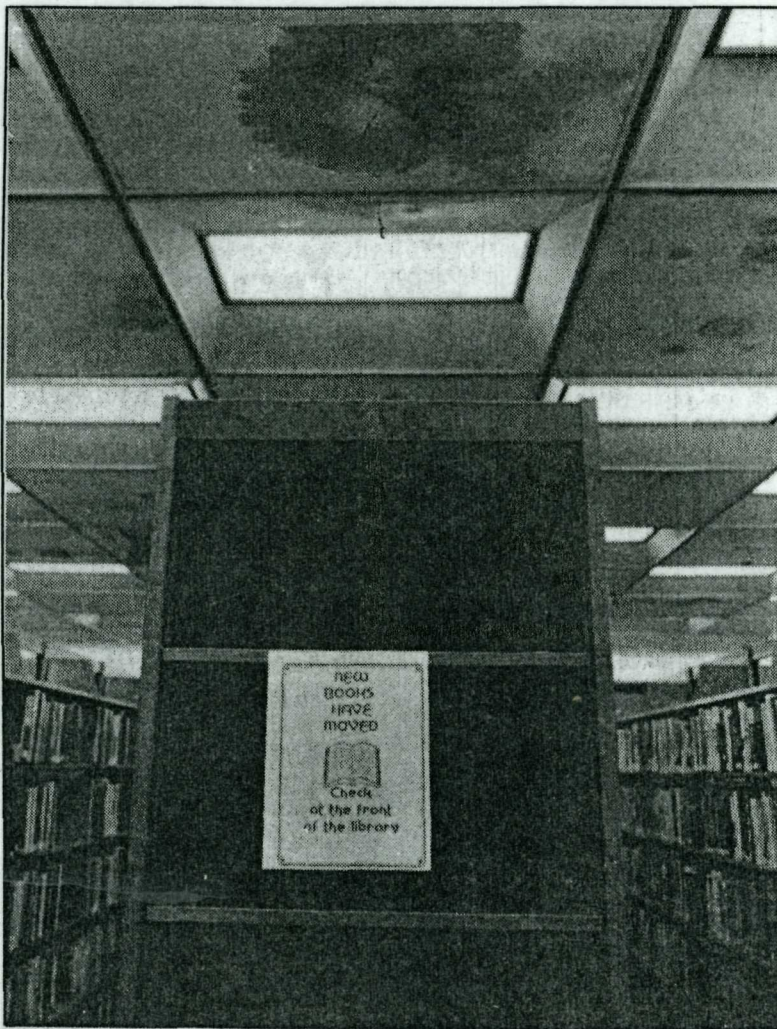
The Library Board has given preliminary approval to hire Lansing architect Ed Lugosky.

No permanent roof work has been done since 1976, the year the library was built. "We've had plenty of patching work done, but this time we're going to take care of the problem once and for all," Bojda said.

Preliminary estimates indicate that a new roof will cost between \$150,000 and \$200,000, Bojda said. She cautioned, however, that those estimates are "not a hard and fast figure."

"We've been told to expect additional damage when the ceiling comes down," she said. "Many of our problems are due to the original construction," Bojda added.

To pay for the work, the library



Star photo by Carol Dorsett

The "new books" case is located directly beneath a leaking roof at the Lansing Public Library, prompting the removal of those books to another location.

will take out a loan, Bojda assured. Because a library — as a public institution — is obligated to spend most of the money it collects from taxes, it does not have money stored aside for construction projects or other endeavors.

"The state requires us to spend what we levy," Bojda explained. "We can't levy to make a profit."

Bojda said if the library board opted to pay for the new roof out of its own budget, it would take

up one-third of the budget. The library spends 15 percent of its annual budget, or \$75,000, on books alone. An additional \$15,000 a year is allocated for materials.

According to Bojda, the worst leaking problems occur immediately after the winter thaw.

"The first time the temperature reaches 33 degrees, we have a lot of water. The snow falls all winter and accumulates. When it starts to melt, it melts continuously for days."

LOCAL HISTORY
LANSING PUBLIC LIBRARY
NEWS ARTICLES
PAMPHLET FILE

For Reference

Not to be taken from this room

Police Over

By Kym Liebler

A suspect evaded battery \$50,000 bond. The sheriff's released on his the Cook County ment, due to d at the Cook C

That scenario occurs 50 times. The sheriff's expelled to release jail's burgeoni

Yet, judges County Sixth say the fact crowded does they set. A b defendant will his case is worse the of bond.

Years ago, C to institute a p less than \$100 considered by individual rec Bond, and the his court date. is no longer on department m let criminals g bond originally a judge.

"It is by no procedure," c spokeswoman. iff Michael She are taken into Often, who is the severity of

Theoretically, with felony cri receive moneta

Lansing solves most flooding,