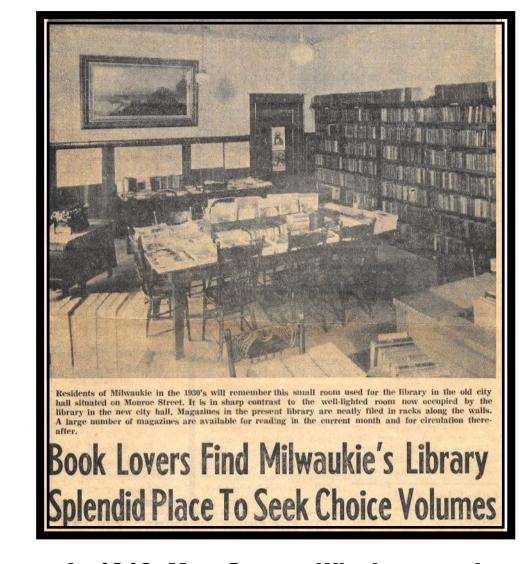
In 1889, Alfred Luelling is said to have started Milwaukie's first circulating library. A number of books were placed in the law office of Thomas Lakin, Justice of the Peace, on the southeast corner of Main and Washington Streets. This library was in operation only a few months when the building burned and with it Milwaukie's library.



In 1910, Mrs. George Wissinger and Mrs. James Reid and others obtained permission to use a room in the old city hall for library purposes.



This library functioned until the new grammar school was built in 1916 when the books were turned over to the school.

Ledding Library - 125 Years of Service



In 1961, Mrs. Florence Ledding, step-daughter of Seth Luelling, and long-time civic and

political leader, bequeathed her home and property at Twenty-first and Harrison to the City of

Milwaukie. Her will specified that the property shall be inalienable and shall be used for library

purposes only and shall never be used in whole or in part for any other purposes. She suggested

that the Library be called the Ledding Library as a memorial to her husband, Herman F. Ledding,

and herself. Five thousand dollars were also given for the purchase of books, as well as many

volumes from their considerable collection. In 1963, a \$150,000 bond issue was passed and the

work of remodeling the old home and building a modern library was begun. Late in 1964 the

move into the new building was accomplished. Formal grand opening was held on

Sunday, January 17, 1965.



Milwaukie's Ledding Library Adult Reading Room



Ledding Library Opens Music Room

PERRY MEMORIAL

MUSIC ROOM

DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY

WILLIAM B. PERRY

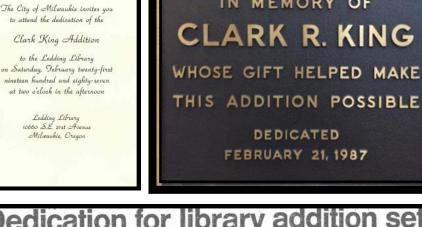
ADULT READING AREA

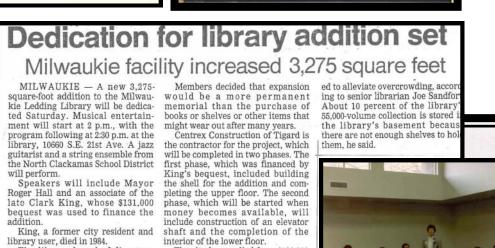
The Ledding Library has strived for 125 years to grow and improve for our community. With the property that Florence Ledding donated for the Library, we found a permanent home and for 50 years we have continued to improve and expand our services. Our sincere thanks to all of you that have supported the Ledding library -

Past, Present, and Future!



IN MEMORY OF



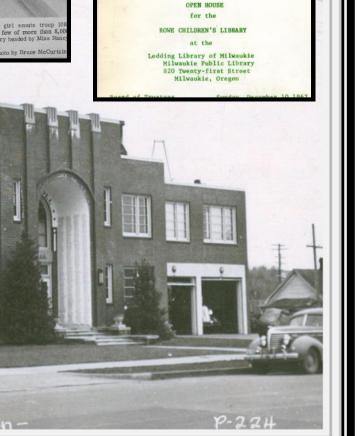






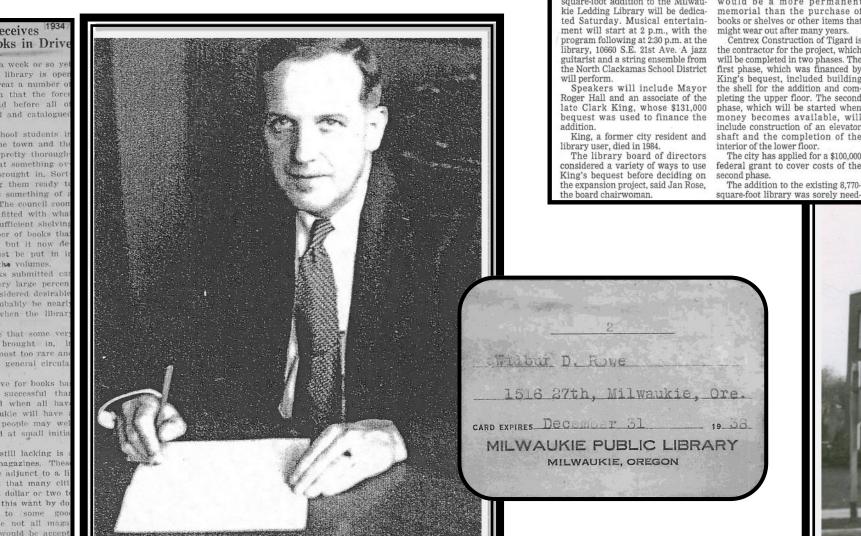
Milwaukie Ledding Library

Sets 'Childrens' Open House





Then in 1926, a group of interested people met at the home of Mrs. Edith Hazen once more to plan a free library for Milwaukie. Mr. and Mrs. William B. Perry offered space in the Perry Pharmacy at Main and Monroe. With the help of volunteers this library continued until 1934.



In 1934, School Superintendent Wilbur Rowe led a group of business men to petition the City Council for use of the Council Chamber for a library. This being granted, he organized a book drive, out of which 2000 books were found usable and placed on the shelves.

A new City Hall was built in 1937, plans provided for both a jail and a library, but available funds were not sufficient for both, so the Council voted to omit the jail and give room for a library. As of today, Milwaukie has no jail - the Library seems to have been a good substitute!