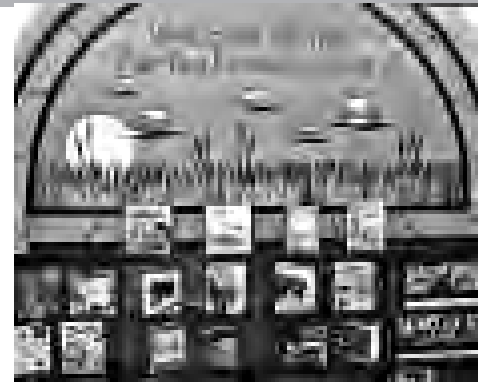




The Fairfax Branch Library.



Two library staff members man the reference desk.

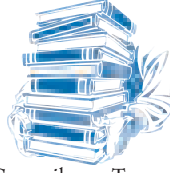


The children's section.

Sunny Outlook, at Least

■ Fairfax Library Branch opens with ceremonies that were moved inside due to weather.

Story and photos by Bev Haro, Club Counselor



LIBRARY — The Fairfax Branch Library opened to the public in a ceremony Sept. 20.

Speakers included Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, City Librarian Fontayne Holmes, Councilman Tom LaBonge, a Friends of the Library representative and a student from the neighborhood. It was a rainy day, so the ceremony had to be held inside the library.

Mayor Villaraigosa and Councilman LaBonge both displayed their library cards for the crowd. After the mayor cut the ribbon, he toured the library along with the public.

The new branch provides space for books, people and computers. It features special areas for children, teens and adults; a multipurpose meeting room; and garden areas. The new library also provides patrons with 21st century technology through computer workstations that link patrons to the LAPL's Website, catalog, and a vast array of databases on the Internet.

The Fairfax branch is part of the largest and most ambitious library infrastructure improvement project in the nation, and was funded by Proposition DD, a 1998 bond. The program expands or improves 28 branches citywide and creates four new branches in communities currently without library service.

The new branch is at 161 S. Gardner St. in the Fairfax district. It is one of the last libraries to open.



Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa cuts the ribbon.



An employee of Public Works.



In front of the Fairfax Branch Library.



Councilman Tom LaBonge and Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa proudly display their library cards.

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