

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, Nicole Herold has dedicated over 30 years of exemplary service to the Ramsey County Library since 1993, fostering a love of learning in young people, and making a profound impact on accessible information to the community; and

WHEREAS, Nicole started as a library page in 1980, returning as a temporary clerk in 1982, 1985 and 1988, earning her Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois—Urbana Champaign in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Nicole embarked on her career as a children’s librarian at Ramsey County Library – Roseville in 1993, instrumentally planning the arrangement of the library’s new children’s room, and later then serving as a library manager at Mounds View; and

WHEREAS, Nicole spearheaded significant youth service initiatives and projects; pioneering Ramsey County Library’s first baby storytime, creation of storybag and storytub collections, writing grants for storytime materials, and debuting outreach storytimes at Head Start, amongst other programs that are now core services of Ramsey County Library; and

WHEREAS, Nicole has been an unwavering champion for intellectual freedom, advocating for the rights of residents to seek, access, and receive information without fear of censorship or reprisal, fostering an environment of diverse perspectives, critical thinking, and the development of a racially equitable collection; and

WHEREAS, Nicole ascended to serve as the Library Manager of Technical services, stewarding the library collections budget since 2005, demonstrating remarkable commitment to responsibly allocating public dollars, and leading a team to ensure public access to knowledge and information of an astounding value of over 24 million dollars throughout her career; and

WHEREAS, Nicole led a pivotal role in acquisitions of opening day collections for Ramsey County Libraries including Maplewood, New Brighton, North Saint Paul, Roseville, Shoreview, and White Bear Lake, managing and working through four decades of change including adding barcodes to all library materials and later then adding RFID tags, in addition to the expansion to e-content materials, fundamentally adding a whole new library collection; and

WHEREAS, Nicole is described by direct reports and colleagues as an admirable leader with vast institutional knowledge that creates environments of respect and empowerment with leadership based upon leveraging the strengths of her team and individual talents using gentle, knowledgeable guidance, clear communication, and a calm demeanor, that encourages cooperation and collaboration, and supports the spirit of public library service and Ramsey County values and priorities, and importantly, is a phenomenal baker; Now, Therefore, Be It

PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners honors and celebrates Nicole Herold for her exemplary service, outstanding achievements, lasting impact on our library system and community, and wish her a fulfilling retirement filled with peace, and many more trips to the library.

  
Rafael Ortega, Board Chair, District 5

  
Tara Jebens-Singh, Commissioner, District 1

  
Mary Jo McGuire Commissioner, District 2

  
Rena Moran Commissioner, District 4

  
Mai Chong Xiong, Commissioner, District 6

  
Kelly Miller, Commissioner, District 7

  
Ling Becker, County Manager