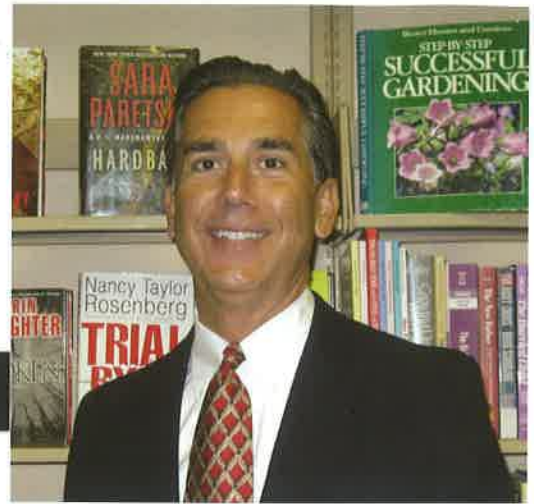




by Douglas H. Frazer

Joe Rice

North Shore Library's New Director



Our library, the North Shore Library (6800 North Port Washington Road), is special. It is what is known as a joint library since it serves Fox Point, Bayside, Glendale, and River Hills.

In my April article on the North Shore Library, I mentioned that the library was looking for a new director. I am pleased to report it found one. Joe Rice, 54, has an extensive and impressive library background. Most recently, he has served as the assistant director of the Shorewood Library and the director of the Brown Deer Library.

Rice is originally from Hartsville, South Carolina. He has a bachelor of arts in English and a master's degree in library science from the University of South Carolina (Columbia). Rice has led the Film/Video Center at the Harold Washington Library Center (the main library for the Chicago Public Library system) in Chicago and has served as the reference and cataloging librarian at the MATC Mequon campus library.

In making the appointment, the Library Board sought input from the North Shore Library Foundation, the Friends of the North Shore Library, and library department heads.

Rice says, "I'm thrilled to be the new director of the library and am looking forward to working with the staff, the Library Board, and the four constituent communities to make the library on par with the very best libraries in the state."

Rice's immediate goals include working with the Library Board on the expansion project that hopefully will find a larger site to relieve pressing space needs. Second, Rice looks to move the library forward technologically – including the introduction of self checkout capabilities through

radio frequency identification tags on library materials. Last but not least, Rice plans to introduce himself and work closely with each member of the Library Board, the library staff, the Library Foundation, and Friends of the Library to create the positive working relationship needed to make the facility hum.

Our community is committed to having and maintaining a first rate library. Rice believes he can help lead us toward this goal. With our help and support, he will. Congratulations Joe!

Douglas H. Frazer is a trustee on the Fox Point Village Board. The views expressed are his own and not necessarily those of the Village, the Village Board, other Village Board members, or Best Version Media, LLC.

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