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Finding aid for the Richard F. Vander Veen papers Collection 336

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Grand Rapids History Center

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URL: <https://www.grpl.org/research/history/>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Grand Rapids History Center
Creator:	VanderVeen, Richard
Title:	Richard F. Vander Veen papers
ID:	Collection 336
Date [inclusive]:	circa 1922-2006
Physical Description:	3.7 Linear Feet Six boxes plus flat files
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Richard F. Vander Veen (1922-2006) was a Grand Rapids, Michigan lawyer and politician. He served as the Democratic Congressman from the 5th District of Michigan from 1974 to 1977. Beyond his political activities, Vander Veen was devoted to his family, headed a law firm, was a rare bookman, loved sailing and headed an alternative energy company later in life. He was particularly important to the Grand Rapids Public Library, having been primarily responsible for developing the Ryerson Library Foundation as a funding arm of the library. The Vander Veen Center for the Book, on the fourth floor of the library, serves as a meeting space for organizations and programs, particularly those which celebrate authors and books. Vander Veen's papers document his personal life and political career through newspaper clippings, images and memorabilia collected by him and his family.

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Biographical / Historical

Richard Franklin Vander Veen (Dick) was born November 26, 1922 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the son of Richard Franklin Vander Veen and Nettie Moerdyk. He had two younger brothers, Robert and James. During the Depression the family moved to Muskegon, Michigan. Living near the Great Lakes may have influenced the brothers in their later choice of military service; all three were in the Navy during World War II. In his youth Dick worked at the Highland Park Dairy (A&W) and was active in theater productions at Muskegon High School. It was during a

Christmas play there, while playing a wise man, that he met "Mary," played by Marion Pearl Coward, who later became his wife. After graduating from high school in 1940, he spent a year at Muskegon Junior College, then enlisted in the U.S. Navy, attending the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, 1941. He ended up in the South Pacific after Pearl Harbor was bombed, taking part in the Battles of Midway and Coral Sea in a Navy Patrol Bomber.

After the War, in 1944, Vander Veen returned to school first at the University of the South, in Sewanee, Tennessee and then at the University of South Carolina, while remaining in the service. At USC he was editor of the Carolina Review, president of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, a Blue Key recipient and president of the student body. He graduated in June 1946, with the rank of Ensign, and after their June 29, 1946 wedding, Dick and Marion moved to Cambridge Massachusetts, where Dick attended Harvard Law School, graduating in 1949. Following graduation the couple moved back to Grand Rapids, where Vander Veen was admitted to the Michigan Bar and joined the law firm of Tubbs & Gretenberger. He was called up from the Naval Reserve to active participation in the Korean War, 1950-1952. Dick was serving as a Deck Officer aboard the USS Latimer when his first child, Richard, was born in July 1951. After completion of this tour of duty, Vanderveen returned to law in Grand Rapids, to form the law firm of VanderVeen and Freihoffer, later Vanderveen, Friehofer and Cook. Two other sons, Lawrence James (1953) and Paul (1955) completed the family.

In 1958, Dick Vander Veen ran against Jerry Ford for Congress. John F. Kennedy and Phil Hart came to Grand Rapids to campaign for him. Vander Veen lost this election though he was later to occupy this seat. In 1958 Michigan Governor G. Mennen appointed Vander Veen to the Michigan Mental Health Commission, where he served until 1963. In 1959 he became chairman of the Fifth District Democratic Party, and in 1960 he chaired the Michigan Democratic Convention and ran for Lieutenant Governor, losing in a close race. In 1964, Vander Veen was appointed by then Governor George Romney to the Michigan Highway Commission, on which he served for five years. It was during this time period that he served as president of the Western Michigan Chapter of the World Affairs Council, and worked with others to help found Grand Valley State College. From 1969 to 1973 he was President of GVSU's Urban Affairs Institute. In 1969 Vander Veen was elected to the East Grand Rapids Board of Education, serving through 1974. He followed this in 1971 with a run for the office of Mayor of East Grand Rapids, Michigan, but was defeated.

In 1973, the family founded Vander Veen and Company, a rare book business, which continued to be an interest for the remainder of his life. Later in 1973, life for the Vander Veen's changed when another Grand Rapids resident, Gerald R. Ford, became Vice President under Richard Nixon, following Spiro Agnew's resignation. In a special February 1974 election for Ford's vacated seat, Richard Franklin Vander Veen defeated the Republican candidate, Richard VanderLaan, and was the first Democrat in 64 years to be elected to the 5th District Congressional seat. In fall of 1974, Vander Veen won the seat again for the regular term. He served on both the Public Works and the Ways and Means Committees during his congressional period. Vander Veen ran for reelection in 1976, but was defeated, with the seat returning to Republican Harold Sawyer, who had heavy support from Jerry Ford. Dick Vander Veen persevered, and ran in the 1978 primaries as a candidate for the U.S. Senate, but was defeated. He practiced law briefly in Washington, D.C. before returning to Grand Rapids to the firm Varnum, Riddering, Wierengo & Christenson. In 1984 he was made a member of the Michigan

State Waterways Commission. He founded Resource Energy Co., a Lansing firm, to convert waste to energy.

As Dick Vander Veen moved into retirement, he was one of those busy, active people who continues to use his creative energies to develop a better life for the Grand Rapids and Michigan communities. Among his endeavors was working in support of his son Richard in the company Bay Windpower, which generates wind turbine energy in Michigan. Two of his other projects support his love of books, and the Grand Rapids Public Library. In 1990, he worked with then Library Director Robert Raz to develop the Ryerson Library Foundation, the fund-raising arm of the Library. The Foundation, and funds raised, made it possible for the renovation and construction of several Grand Rapids Public Library buildings from 2000-2003. In the newly renovated Main Library of the Grand Rapids Public Library system is found the Vander Veen Center for the Book. This room, located in the Grand Rapids History & Special Collections department, is used as a meeting space for many community organizations, including the Literacy Council which strives to improve adult reading and non-English speakers reading skills. The Vander Veen Center is also a space to celebrate the love of books and reading with programs about books, authors or about rare books and conservation. A Certificate of Tribute from the State of Michigan, signed by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm in 2004, commemorated the Center, and Vander Veen's other outstanding activities.

Suffering a stroke in 1993, Vander Veen recovered to continue on with his activities until March 3, 2006, when he died as a result of prostate cancer.

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Scope and Contents

The Richard F. Vander Veen papers at the Grand Rapids Public Library contain general information on this Grand Rapids lawyer and politician, who was also a strong supporter of the Library itself. The bulk of the materials focus on his general biography, his family and his political career.

His official congressional papers are at Michigan State University.

Several images are included in this collection, from different eras and activities of Vander Veen's life. Many of the items in the collection are original. Others are copy photos, with the originals being retained by the family.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Grand Rapids History Center

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Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

localhis@grpl.org

URL: <https://www.grpl.org/research/history/>

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Vander Veen family, accession numbers 2004.008, 2004.063 and 2006.078.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Richard Vander Veen is considered the founder of the Ryerson Library Foundation in 1990 which supports the Grand Rapids Public Library. As such, there may be additional information on Vander Veen available from the Foundation.

Coll. 004, World Affairs Council. Includes one image of Vander Veen, perhaps other information on his tenure with this organization.

Coll. 342, Ryerson Library Foundation Papers

Coll. 109, GRPL Administrative Archives. This is the collection which documents the Library's own activities. It is possible that Vander Veen is included in some of the documents within this collection, such as papers passed on by former Director Robert Raz.

Vander Veen's congressional papers are located at the University Archives & Historical Collections, Michigan State University, Richard F. Vander Veen's papers, 1974-1976.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- Politicians -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- personal papers
- Grand Rapids Public Library (Grand Rapids, Mich.)
- Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation

Collection Inventory

Series I. Biographical

Scope and Contents

Includes a few original items but mostly photocopies of images, certificates, etc. which document VanderVeen's early life, family, work, and political life.

Misc. Biographical

Title/Description	Instances	
Birth Certificate, Nov. 26, 1922 (photocopy)	Box 1	Folder 1
U. of S. Carolina Graduating and commissioning Exercises. Program [Original or Photocopy???	Box 1	Folder 1
Michigan Manual, 1975. Vanderveen Entry.	Box 1	Folder 1
"With Us Today : Richard VanderVeen" GR Press, Nov. 19, 1992	Box 1	Folder 1
Resume, Mar. 30, 1992	Box 1	Folder 1
Vander Veen entry from Biographical Directory of the United State Congress. http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=V000029	Box 1	Folder 1
Obituaries. March 3, 2006.	Box 1	Folder 1
WOOD TV 8. Website. "Former Congressman Richard VanderVeen dies".	Box 1	Folder 1
Grand Rapids Press on MLIVE.com "Democrat who won Ford's House seat dies at 83".	Box 1	Folder 1
Memorial note by Marcie Lewis of the Ryerson Library Foundation, RE Dick VanderVeen, his love of books, the 1990 initiation of the Ryerson Library Foudation, the Vander Veen Family Fund (1999) for memorial gifts.	Box 1	Folder 1

Grand Rapids Press, Mar. 5, 2006. Deaths Last Week (national obits.) includes an image of VanderVeen to the left of John Kennedy with Phil Hart at Kennedy's right.	Box 1	Folder 1
Grand Rapids Press, Mar. 4 & 5, 2006. Local obituary for VanderVeen. Photocopy. Note: oversized originals of these are at FF.XIII.B	Box 1	Folder 1
Memorial Service, Program (2). Westminster Presbyterian Church, March 5, 2006.	Box 1	Folder 1
Dick Vander Veen : the First 70 Years, Nov. 26, 1922-1992 / by his son, RFV (Richard F. VanderVeen, III) Biography, with written information & images.	Box 1	Folder 2
Photocopy. Cover is color laser(?) copy on paper of VanderVeen sailing.	Box 1	Folder 2
Comments by Dick's son, Rich.	Box 1	Folder 3
Photocopies of miscellaneous images and other documents.	Box 1	Folder 4
Muskegon High School Senior Class, 1940. "What A Life" play program. Includes image of VanderVeen on stage in scene.	Box 1	Folder 4
United States Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Illinois. Mar. 19, 1941. Certificate, USN company 21-41.	Box 1	Folder 4
Certificate. National Honor Fraternity "Blue Key", USC. 1945.	Box 1	Folder 4
Certificate. Clariosophic Literary Society, USC. n.d.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. RFV, Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps. 1946 Graduate.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. Harvard Law School Graduation, Jan. 1949.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. Swearing In Ceremony. Kent co. Circuit Court, 1949. RFV and Robert S. Tubbs standing, others in background.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. Fledgling attorneys, sworn in June 1949. Group photo, search for clipping which might have name identifications.	Box 1	Folder 4
Photocopy of book cover "PBY : the Catalina flying Boat" / by Roscoe Creed. RFV was radioman in a PBY in battles of Coral Sea & Midway, So. Pacific.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. PA152. Lt. RFV served about the Latimer attach transport, during the Korean War, Nov. 1950-Sept. 1952. See Photographs	Box 1	Folder 4
Photocopy of ephemera from Harvard Law School Days. War Manpower Commission card.	Box 1	Folder 4

Selective Service System Registration Certificate. Dup. 12/14/1956, original registration date Aug. 30, 1948.	Box 1	Folder 4
Photocopy of Profession of Faith. Westminster Presbyterian Church, GR. June 12, 1949.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. 1958 group image of the VanderVeens with John F. Kennedy and others at airport. Kennedy came in to campaign for Phil Hart running for Senate and RFV running for 5th District Congressional Seat. L-R: Jane Hart, Richard & Marion VanderVeen, Jack Kenndy, Phil Hart, unknown male.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. 1958. Cropped view of image above, this version showing online the VanderVeens and Kennedy. A	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. 1958 End banner on VanderVeen for Congress trailer. VanderVeen vs. Jerry Ford. On same sheet with image above.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image of button, "Vote VanderVeen". On same sheet with two images above.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image of VanderVeen family in or near tree, published in a newspaper clipping, no citation.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image of VanderVeen family near fireplace. Probably from a newspaper clipping.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. VanderVeen, Freihofer, Cook & Brant, attorneys. 1962.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. Group photo with name identifications, banquet setting. Vanderveen's law firm, Dec. 1968.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. VanderVeen family, with Dick at microphones Nov. 1974 after the election win.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. Group image of congress persons from michigan on the day of taking oath, with VanderVeen Center. L-R: Rep. William Ford, Martha Griffith, John Dingell, VanderVeen, Charles Diggs, Donald Riegle.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. VanderVeen with Michigan Governor William Milliken, 1974.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. VanderVeen with Congressman Lucien Nedje from near Detroit.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. Rep. Gerry Studds and Rep. Barbara Jordan (African American) with VanderVeen at Capitol(?)	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. VanderVeen with Jimmy Carter, 1976.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. VanderVeen with Jerry Ford.	Box 1	Folder 4
Image. Michigan State Highway Information Center Building, south of Coldwater, Mi. Named after RFV in honor of his service on the Highway Commission.	Box 1	Folder 4

Lists of condolences, memorials and donors, 2006	Box 1	Folder 36
Notes and cards of condolence, 2006	Box 1	Folder 37
Notes and cards of condolence, 2006	Box 1	Folder 38
Notes and cards of condolence, 2006	Box 1	Folder 39
Notes and cards of condolence, 2006	Box 1	Folder 40
Notes and cards of condolence, 2006	Box 1	Folder 41
Notes and cards of condolence, 2006	Box 1	Folder 42
Notes and cards of condolence, 2006	Box 1	Folder 43
Notes and cards of condolence, 2006	Box 1	Folder 44
Notes and cards of condolence, 2006	Box 1	Folder 45

Richard F. Vander Veen, Attorney

Title/Description	Instances	
Photocopy of announcement of new address at 320 East Fulton Street, May 6, 1955 for VanderVeen, Freihofer & Cook – top half of sheet.	Box 1	Folder 5
Photocopy of letterhead for VanderVeen, Freihofer, Cook & Bryant, at the same address, n.d. Lists principles at the left, including Donald F. Oosterhouse and Robert J. DeBoer in addition to those in the letterhead.	Box 1	Folder 5
New Location, 1962. Waters Building. Letterhead (4 sheets, one with an image of VanderVeen copied into the center of the letterhead sheet)	Box 1	Folder 5
Address in letterhead: 105 Commerce Building, 5 Lyon Street, N.W. This address is from a later era than earlier law practices.	Box 1	Folder 5
Environmental Law: A View into the 1990's; Miller, Johnson, Snell & Commiskey, 1989	Box 1	Folder 5

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Series II. Clippings

Scope and Contents

Includes primarily clippings from Grand Rapids newspapers, with some additional national coverage around the 1974 election. Most clippings are photocopies. The clippings are housed chronologically, along with the ephemera.

Title/Description	Instances	
1960's "Birth of a Favorite" Detroit Free Press, June 8, 1960	Box 1	Folder 7

Misc. Clippings or newspaper sections. Ads & stories

Title/Description	Instances	
"Terrific Campaign win for Vander Veen" GR Press, Dec. 1973. Laminated by donor.	Box 4	
Grand Valley Labor News, Jan. 28, 1974	Box 4	
Grand Valley Labor News, Sept. 29, 1976	Box 4	
Political Ad Section, source unknown [1 folded sheet] Has: image of Vanderveen, Kennedy & Hart on one side, image of Election Night, Feb., 1974, with Richard & Marion Ad. "Standing up for working people. Item has previously been hung, and has a hole piercing the pages.	Box 5	
Political Cartoon with Watergate Skunk / Gib Crockett. Washington Star-News, Feb. 20, 1974. A-10.	Drawer FF.XIII.B	
"VanderVeen: The man and the message". GR Press, Wonderland section, Mar. 3, 1974.	Box 5	
Grand Rapids Press Voter's Guide. Primary Election, Aug. 6, 1974.	Box 5	
1974-1976 Washington Period, Family	Box 1	Folder 11
"Race that Roared : 1974 election forecast anti-Nixon storm, GOP wakeup call" GR Press. Feb. 18, 1999.	Drawer FF.XIII.B	
Image. VanderVeen seated on sofa with books behind.	Drawer FF.XIII.B	
Image. VanderVeen family with Dick at microphones after 1974 win. Laminated by donor; not a preservation medium. Pg. A15-A16	Drawer FF.XIII.B	

Grand Rapids Press, no dates on these clippings, al

Title/Description	Instances	
Just Like Watergate, VanderVeen Charges	Box 1	Folder 9
VanderVeen Points to Necessity for Change in Leadership.	Box 1	Folder 9
Democrat Fights against History.	Box 1	Folder 9
Feb. 18, 1974 Win Local clippings. [need bibliography]	Box 1	Folder 10
Feb. 18, 1974 National headlines. [need bibliography]	Box 1	Folder 11
Feb. 1974 Political Headlines Scrapbook (photocopies)	Box 5	
Newsweek article, Feb. 1974	Box 1	Folder 12
Feb. 1974 Campaign stories or Ad, GR Press. 8 Photocopied sheets	Box 4	

Election at a Glance. GR Press [Feb. 1974] Laminated by donor; not preservation treatment. Box 4

1976 Campaign

Title/Description	Instances	
Oct. 27, 1976, GR Press. "For Congress".	Box 1	Folder 20

Post Congressional Clippings, 1976/1977

Title/Description	Instances	
GR Press Clipping Dec, 9, 1976. VanderVeen's coming Home to be Lawyer.	Box 1	Folder 21
GR Press Clipping Jan. 2, 1977. VanderVeen made impact in brief Capital say.	Box 1	Folder 21
GR Press Clipping Jan. 2, 1977. To Washington and Back / by Richard F. VanderVeen.	Box 1	Folder 21

1978 Primary Campaign for U.S. Senate

Title/Description	Instances	
June 28, 1978. Teachers endorse VanderVeen for opposing tax revolt.	Box 1	Folder 23
Detroit Free Press. n.d. Senate: We recommend Robert Griffin for the Republicans, Richard VanderVeen for the Democrats.	Box 1	Folder 23
Detroit Free Press. n.d. Style, not substance, in Senate race. Free Press.	Box 1	Folder 23

1980-2006 Clippings

Title/Description	Instances	
Grand Rapids Press Clipping? 1980.VanderVeen Still Active but Role is Different.	Box 1	Folder 24
Grand Rapids Press Clipping Aug. 24, 1982. Blimp. "Former Congressman Richard F. VanderVeen has decided against being the Democrat's choice for lieutenant governor."	Box 1	Folder 24
Grand Rapids Press Clipping Nov. 2, 1986. Election Specials ... Richard VanderVeen Shocker.	Box 1	Folder 24

Clippings from other sources:

Title/Description	Instances	
From Life at Louisville Seminary, Summer 1991.	Box 1	Folder 24

The Paper. Feb. 1999. The Last Democrat : a man named VanderVeen beat the GOP 25 years ago.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
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Oversized clippings 1980-2006

Title/Description	Instances
Jan. 18, 2004. "Cover for a friend" GR Press "Books" section. Note: Copy photographs of the two images of VanderVeen used in this article are located in Coll. 297-9.5	Drawer FF.XIII.B
Saturday, March 4, 2006. Lawmaker made mark with House win : Richard VanderVeen remembered for his 'Earth-shattering' victory.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
Sunday, Mar. 5, 2006. Local Obituary for VanderVeen. See also the national obituary in 336-1-1- above.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
Monday, March 6, 2006. His 'spirit is alive within me' : family friends celebrate life of former congressman, lawyer, entrepreneur, activist.	Drawer FF.XIII.B

Grand Rapids Press articles from Proquest, 1990 to 2004

Title/Description	Instances
Oct. 22, 1990. Soviet Troubles Imperil Gorbachev. RE: VanderVeen trip to Soviet Union. [Article documents founding of Resource Energy Co., Lansing, but not the date].	Box 1 Folder 25
Dec. 8, 1990. Traver book sale aids disadvantaged. [Article documents the founding of the John D. Voelker Foundation by Richard Vanderveen]	Box 1 Folder 25
Aug. 1, 1993. Wide-open race expected for Henry's seat.	Box 1 Folder 25
Sept. 23, 1993. A Full Field of Candidates to Success Henry [Paul Henry]	Box 1 Folder 25
Oct. 25, 1999. Air Power ... Entrepreneurs blown away by potential of windmills. [Documents father/son firm Bay Windpower. VanderVeen senior given as the Secretary, and Richard Vander Veen his son as a partner in the company, and as a Grand Rapids attorney. [Note. Most other GR Press articles which mention Richard VanderVeen are referring to Richard Vander Veen III, son of the Congressman.]	Box 1 Folder 25
Oct. 5, 2002. False or forgotten? Congressman denies giving endorsement; but supporters of judicial candidate Judy Baxter say Richard VanderVeen may have forgotten because of his poor health. [Article documents his stroke in 1993].	Box 1 Folder 25
Jan. 4, 2003. Democrats bsk in the Glow of Granholm Gala. [With comments by VanderVeen]	Box 1 Folder 25

Apr. 3, 2003. Former U.S. Rep. Harold Sawyer dies; the former Kent County prosecutor was elected to fill the seat once held by Gerald R. Ford. [RE Sawyer willing the seated from Vander Veen in 1976].	Box 1	Folder 25
Jan. 4, 2004. Polpourri. [Documents John Logie as a member of the campaign committee to elect Dick Vanderveen to Jerry Ford's seat in 1974.]	Box 1	Folder 25
Jan. 18, 2004. Cover for a friend; New Club treasures the feel of a beloved book. [RE VanderVeen Center, and Dick VanderVeen's love of books.]	Box 1	Folder 25

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Series III. Documents & Ephemera

Scope and Contents

Includes here are paper items which explain and document VanderVeens political career. Invitations, flyers, and political ads mark his run for the position as Congressman. One set of invitation cards uses a design by graphic artist Stephen Frykhom (Herman Miller), which he created for a poster promoting VanderVeen's 1974 campaign. Other documents, including a few letters, a newsletter "On the Record", and brief reports, tell of his work while in Washington. Some items document his work back in his constituency. Later ephemera mark his runs for other offices.

Title/Description	Instances	
Vanderveen for Lieutenant Governor. Election Flyer 1960. (Age 38) [1 original, 1 photocopy]	Box 1	Folder 6
Vanderveen for Lieutenant Governor. Flyer.	Box 4	
Vanderveen for Lieutenant Governor. Flyer. Enlarged color laser photocopy of above, 2 sheets.	Box 4	
VanderVeen for Mayor of East Grand Rapids, Feb. 15, 1971.	Box 1	Folder 8
"On the Record", Congressional political newsletters. 5/1975-9/1976	Box 1	Folder 14

Reports

Title/Description	Instances	
"Report for the first eight weeks", 1974	Box 1	Folder 15
"Report from Washington. Vander Veen Helps to Thwart Amoco ..." [1974?]	Box 1	Folder 15
"Report from Washington. Our Troubled Economy Demands Tough Decisions. ..." [1974?] (2)	Box 1	Folder 15
1 postcard mailer. Fifth District Mobile Office ...	Box 1	Folder 15

Correspondence, 1974-1976

Title/Description	Instances	
Carbon Copy. To Dick from Howard H. Callaway. Stamped 19 Aug.	Box 1	Folder 16
Library of Congress letterhead. To Dick from William Matheson, Chief, Reference Department, Rare Book Division. Nov. 26, 1974.	Box 1	Folder 16
Photocopy. U.S. Senate letterhead. Philip A. Hart, Michigan. To Dick	Box 1	Folder 16
Photocopy. Speaker's Room, U.S. House of Representatives. To. Dick from Speaker Carl Albert. RE appointment to Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. Mar. 19, 1976.	Box 1	Folder 16
House of Representatives letterhead. To Dick from Edward Mezvinsky. Mar. 4, 1975. Stamped received Mar. 6, 1975. RE copy of a picture (perhaps one of the unidentifieds here in collection)	Box 1	Folder 16

Washington Activities

Title/Description	Instances	
Feb. 28, 1975. Committee on Ways & Means. List of invited Panelists.	Box 1	Folder 17
Members of Congress for Peace Through Law. Special Committee on Middle East Peace, Feb. 23, 1976.	Box 1	Folder 17

Local Events

Title/Description	Instances	
Kent Community Action Program. June 27, 1975.	Box 1	Folder 18
News Release. Nov. 26, 1975. National Cancer Institute Awards \$75,000 to Grand Rapids Hospitals. Gives VanderVeen's local address as 162 Federal Building, GR.	Box 1	Folder 18
Guest Book. Signature of those visiting VanderVeen's Office, Mar 1974-Dec. 1976.	Box 1	Folder 19
1976 Reelection Ad sheet [1 sheet folded]	Box 1	Folder 20

ca. 1974-1976 Political ephemera

Title/Description	Instances	
Green Schedule card, Nov. 18th (Tuesday)	Box 1	Folder 20
Flyer. "Leaders for a Change. Vote Democratic, Nov. 2nd., [1976 reelection, including Jim Carter, Vander Veen and others]	Box 1	Folder 20
Clipping. "O'Neill says Nixon to Quit before June 1" / by Stephen Wermiel, Globe Staff.	Box 1	Folder 20

1978 Campaign Ephemera

Title/Description	Instances	
Printed flyer with image of VanderVeen "VanderVeen for U.S. Senate. VanderVee '78 Committee. 28th St. S.E. GR	Box 1	Folder 22
White legal flyer. Feb. 1978. Dear Friend ... Letter to voters.	Box 1	Folder 22
Yellow legal flyer. Mar./Apr. 1978. a Report on the Campaign.	Box 1	Folder 22

Published campaign ads. Photocopies.

Title/Description	Instances	
3 Viewed by Republicans and Democrats alike ... GR Press.	Box 1	Folder 22
3 Dick VanderVeen thinks the best thing about Bob Griffin is his attendance record.	Box 1	Folder 22
3 Dick VanderVeen is as progressive as Bob Griffin is backward.	Box 1	Folder 22
3 Flyer. Photocopy. Effective for Michigan, Effective for the Nation. Let's elect Dick VanderVeen Michigan's near U.S. Senator.	Box 1	Folder 22
3 Flyer. Photocopy. Dick VanderVeen, Democrat for U.S. Senate. A Record and a Concern.	Box 1	Folder 22

Certificates

Title/Description	Instances	
Richard Vander Veen and the Vander Veen Center for the Book. Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor. [2004]	Box 4	
Color laser copies of Certificate above. (2)	Box 2	Folder 7
Resolution. Michigan State Waterways Commission. [1988, for his 1985 work]	Box 4	
Certificate of Election. Feb. 18, 1974. (photocopy)	Box 2	Folder 1

Political Ads

Title/Description	Instances	
"I've never voted for a Democrat ..." Bill Van Oosterhaut.	Box 2	Folder 2
"Dick VanderVeen's got the right idea ..." Sam Sella.	Box 2	Folder 3

Invitations, ca. 1974-1978

Title/Description	Instances	
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Cocktails at Joyce and David Hecht's, in support of Congressman Dick Vander Veen. Sept. 14, 1974. Orange invitation and gold envelop. Cocktail Birthday Party for Congressman Richard Vander Veen, Nov. 23, 1975 at Flo and Jim Bouwman's. Brown invitation and response card, and a cream colored envelop for each.	Box 2	Folder 4
Cocktail party in honor of U.S. Representative Richard Vander Veen, August 27, 1976, Jim and Nancy Gould. Yellow with black flower. Help us set the course for Congressman Dick VanderVeen. Rose & Abe Drasin, Rana & Joe Schwartz. Cocktails, Oct. 14, 1976. Brown, folding, with historical compus illustration.	Box 2	Folder 4
The Honorable Richard F. Vander Veen, Representative from the Fifth District of Michigan Cordially invites you to a coctail buffet honoring the Honorable Jerry Brown, Governor of California. Oct. 25, 1976. At the home of Mr. And Mrs. James E. Gould. Formal white invitation card.	Box 2	Folder 4
Sail on to Victory with Dick VanderVeen. Jerrie and Don Waterman. Oct. 29, 1976. Cocktails. Blueline sailing sketch on front.	Box 2	Folder 4
Cheers for our Congressman. n.d. White with black block lettering. Welcome home Dick and Marion ... Reception and Dinner. "76" Committee. Orange heart illustration on front / Design by Steve Frykholm. Welcoming home invitation. Valentine Reception and Dinner, Feb. 14 [no year]. Glen and Betsy Boore, at Tommy Branns. On lettering on white card stock.	Box 2	Folder 4
Candidate for U.S. Senate. Reception. Tom and Claire Geil. Feb. 2, [1978] Beige card stock with brown lettering. Folded map on plain white paper.	Box 2	Folder 4
U.S. Senate. Pizza and Politics. Dr. and Mr. Abraham Becker. Feb. 22 [1978]. Green lettering on crème paper. n.d. Vander Veen Debt burner. Sat. June 25. Picnic. Dorothy and Tex Newman's. No. 193.	Box 2	Folder 4

Invitations using the Stephen Frykholm graphic

Title/Description	Instances	
June 4, [1976] Bill Hutchinson and Doug Hillman [reception] "Keeping Congressman Vander Veen in Washington". Peninsular Club.	Box 2	Folder 5
July 8, 1976. Cocktail Party. Greg and Ginny Purcell.	Box 2	Folder 5
July 17, [1976]. Jim Gordon, Middleville, Michigan.	Box 2	Folder 5
August 14, 1976. Barbecue. Gary Schenk & Ted Vaugh.	Box 2	Folder 5
Sept. 18, 1976. Honorable Richard F. Vander Veen ... invites you to a Brunch with the Honorable elizabeth Holtsman, Member of the Committee on the Judiciary. At the Grand Rapids press Club.	Box 2	Folder 5

Sept. 24, 1976. Cocktails. University Club. Hosted by the Medical Friends of Vander Veen.	Box 2	Folder 5
Oct. 2, 1976. Fundraising dinner for Vander Veen. Honorable John conyers, speaker. Ristorante Holly's	Box 2	Folder 5
Oct. 17, 1976. Cocktail Buffet. Given by Mike Riolo, Sand Lake.	Box 2	Folder 5
Nov. 23, [1976] The Campaign is over ... celebrate Dick's birthday ... Flo and Jim Bouwman's.	Box 2	Folder 5

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Series IV. Images (Photographs, negatives, etc.)

Scope and Contents

This series includes images in various formats, most of which are traditional photographic prints in black & white, with some prints in color, or Fuji Pictography prints from digital scans. Some laser photocopies are included. Other images which are photocopies or laser copies, may be found in the Biographical series above. In some cases the donor has retained the original photograph.

Richard Vanderveen with his brothers, James & Robert. Oversized Photos.

Title/Description	Instances
Richard, as a child, with his two younger brothers.	Box 4
Digital copy of a digital or laser copy. Shows three small boys, Richard V. in center. Sepia colored.	Box 4

Vanderveen w his brothers.

Title/Description	Instances
Sons of Frank & Nettie VanderVeen: James, Richard and Robert.	Box 3 Folder 1
Three sailors. Richard in center. L-R: Bob, Dick & Jim VanderVeen, 520 Fifth St., Muskegon Heights, Mich. 1946. WWII era Navy.	Box 3 Folder 1

Graduation, University of South Carolina, 1946.

Title/Description	Instances
Fugi print	Box 3 Folder 2
Original	Box 3 Folder 2
Young man Vander Veen mounted on blue card, with bio below. n.d.	Box 3 Folder 3

Navy, 1950-1952 (4)

Title/Description	Instances	
Fujis	Box 3	Folder 4
Originals still w us.	Box 3	Folder 4

VanderVeen at the Acropolis (2) n.d.

Title/Description	Instances	
RFV in Greece standing with the Acropolis ruins on a hill behind him in the background.	Box 3	Folder 4.5
Similar view, but the structures are larger	Box 3	Folder 4.5

Vander Veen family

Title/Description	Instances	
Color group photo	Box 3	Folder 5
b/w of same image. See copy negative. #4481	Box 3	Folder 5
Lawyer with partners, Vander Veen, Freihofer, Cook & Bryant. 1961. L-R: George Cook, Walter Freihofer, Steve Bryant, Dick VanderVeen.	Box 3	Folder 6

Richard Vanderveen with his brothers, James & Robert. Oversized Photos.

Title/Description	Instances	
Richard, as a child, with his two younger brothers.	Box 4	
Digital copy of a digital or laser copy. Shows three small boys, Richard V. in center. Sepia colored.	Box 4	

Vanderveen w his brothers.

Title/Description	Instances	
Sons of Frank & Nettie VanderVeen: James, Richard and Robert.	Box 3	Folder 1
Three sailors. Richard in center. L-R: Bob, Dick & Jim VanderVeen, 520 Fifth St., Muskegon Heights, Mich. 1946. WWII era Navy.	Box 3	Folder 1

Graduation, University of South Carolina, 1946.

Title/Description	Instances	
Fugi print	Box 3	Folder 2
Original	Box 3	Folder 2

Young man Vander Veen mounted on blue card, with bio below. n.d.	Box 3	Folder 3
Navy, 1950-1952		
Title/Description	Instances	
Fujis	Box 3	Folder 4
Originals still w us.	Box 3	Folder 4
VanderVeen at the Acropolis, n.d.		
Title/Description	Instances	
RFV in Greece standing with the Acropolis ruins on a hill behind him in the background.	Box 3	Folder 4.5
Similar view, but the structures are larger	Box 3	Folder 4.5
Vander Veen family		
Title/Description	Instances	
Color group photo	Box 3	Folder 5
b/w of same image. See copy negative. #4481	Box 3	Folder 5
Lawyer with partners, Vander Veen, Freihofer, Cook & Bryant. 1961. L-R: George Cook, Walter Freihofer, Steve Bryant, Dick VanderVeen.	Box 3	Folder 6
Founder, Athletic Club, 1966 Celebration		
Title/Description	Instances	
Color prints: L-R back row: Unknown, Walter Freihofer, Hunting, Unknown, Bill Remais, Clare Jareki, Bill Seidman, Unknown, Dave Freeman, Peter Cook, Dick Vanderveen, Ellis. L-R front row: Harold Sawyer, Mike Keeler, Dick Gillett, Jim Sebastian.	Box 3	Folder 7
B/w print. See copy neg. #4482.	Box 3	Folder 7
Color laser copies	Box 3	Folder 7
b/w laser copies	Box 3	Folder 7
VanderVeen portrait photos.		
Title/Description	Instances	
1975, Stan Jennings Photographer, Washington, D.C.	Box 3	Folder 8
Congressman Richard F. VanderVeen. Formal portrait photo. Same as image in Coll. 004.	Box 3	Folder 8
VanderVeen in shirt sleeve with hands folded in front.	Box 3	Folder 8

VanderVeen in shirt sleeve smiling.	Box 3	Folder 8
Snapshot of Vanderveen seated at a table with multiple microphones. Mar. 1976.	Box 3	Folder 8
Vanderveen, head shot at a microphone.	Box 3	Folder 8
Color. Photo postcard, no addressed. June, 1976. Headshot, laughing?	Box 3	Folder 8
VanderVeen color portrait	Box 3	Folder 8
Michigan Highway Commission, File no. 30423. Jan. 23, 1969 image. Bird's eye view of five men standing at the curve of the stairs. Charles Hewitt, Charman is center right in the image, with Vanderveen standing beside him. RFV appointed by Gov. George Romney.	Box 3	Folder 8.5
With John F. Kennedy, VanderVeen seated with John Kennedy and Hart.	Box 3	Folder 9
Possible a Grand Rapids Press or UPI photo. Clipping copy, Dick & Marion with Kennedy at airport, n.d.	Box 3	Folder 9

Oversized Laser Photocopies

Title/Description	Instances	
State Congressman VanderVeen, John F. Kennedy, and Senator Hart during the Kennedy's 1960 campaign for President. [see Box 5 for image used in an ad]	Box 4	
VanderVeen with Jimmy Carter, June 1974. (1) O'Neill photo.	Box 3	Folder 10

VanderVeen with Jerry Ford, O'Neill photos.

Title/Description	Instances	
RFV & Ford shaking hands.	Box 3	Folder 11
RFV & Ford shaking hands with another man between them.	Box 3	Folder 11
Michigan Delegation group photo. Ford center with woman standing left. Vanderveen on left end.	Box 3	Folder 11
Michigan Delegation group photo. Ford center, Vanderveen second from left.	Box 3	Folder 11

Vanderveen with John Dingle and others. O'Neill photos.

Title/Description	Instances	
John Dingle left, Vanderveen right.	Box 3	Folder 12
Dingle seated, unidentified man with hand on VanderVeen's shoulder, unidentified server behind Vanderveen.	Box 3	Folder 12

Diggs(?), Dingle and VanderVeen holding the Washington Star News.	Box 3	Folder 12
Vanderveen with unidentified politico	Box 3	Folder 13

VanderVeen with Michigan Governor Milliken, ca. 1974. (2)

Title/Description	Instances	
VanderVeen left with Milliken right, seated at desk. O'Neill photo	Box 3	Folder 14
Another view of two at desk with U.S. Flag shown at rear left of VanderVeen.	Box 3	Folder 14
State Gaming Commission, ca. 1958(?) - 1963, including Governor Milliken standing to the left of Vanderveen in both images (2)	Box 3	Folder 15

1974 Congress photos. O'Neill photos b/w (5)

Title/Description	Instances	
Dick & Marion w Tip O'Neal. Sons Larry, Paul and Dick Vanderveen's father in the background.	Box 3	Folder 16
Group of Michigan electees to Congress on the day of oath taking. L-R: William Ford, Martha Griffith, Richard VanderVeen, Charles Diggs, Senator Riegel. O'Neill photo.	Box 3	Folder 16
Dick Vanderveen with Congress woman Martha Griffith.	Box 3	Folder 16
Diggs and VanderVeen riding in the Capitol subway.	Box 3	Folder 16
VanderVeen in coat shaking Congressman Diggs hand right, with L-R: Marion Vanderveen, son Larry with back to camera, Betty Hoffman.	Box 3	Folder 16

More Washington, 1974-1975

Title/Description	Instances	
1975 w intern, with Capitol Building behind them. O'Neill photo.	Box 3	Folder 16
Rep. Lucien Nedje from near Detroit left, VanderVeen right. See another view with Nedje at 336-1-4. O'Neill photo.	Box 3	Folder 16
Archbishop of Cyprus, Makarios left with RFV, 1974. O'Neill photo.	Box 3	Folder 16
John Blatnik of Minnesota shaking hands with RFV across Blatnik's portrait. Blatnik was Chair of Public Works Committee, on which VanderVeen served. Mrs. Blatnick nominated Mrs. Vandervee for International Club #1. O'Neill photo.	Box 3	Folder 16

RFV speaking to a bus tour group in a meeting room. O'Neill photo.	Box 3	Folder 16
Color photo of RFV right talking with unidentified man in beige suit with yellow shirt at cocktail party. Color photo.	Box 3	Folder 16
U.S. House of Representatives. Committee on Ways and Means. 2nd Session, 84th Congress, Feb. 1976. Group Photo. Richard VanderVeen is seated on the second row, at the far left in this image. 2006.078	Box 5	
Waterways Pennant for Commissioners. Color image of Vanderveen holding the pendant. RFV appointed by Gov. James Blanchard.	Box 3	Folder 18

Local Campaigning snapshots

Title/Description	Instances	
RFV at podium speaking, on stage with seated group, in front of Wyoming Police Justice Building.	Box 3	Folder 19
Parade setting. VanderVeen running across street.	Box 3	Folder 19
Parade setting. VanderVeen talking to a boy, with fuzzy view of the crowd behind him.	Box 3	Folder 19

Color Campaigning snapshots, ca. 1976

Title/Description	Instances	
Photo postcards, colors turning.	Box 3	Folder 20
VanderVeen seated at table with multiple microphones.	Box 3	Folder 20
VanderVeen standing at microphone speaking to group.	Box 3	Folder 20
Vanderveen talked with unidentified African American male.	Box 3	Folder 20
Marion VanderVeen center wearing red "VanderVeen" button.	Box 3	Folder 20
VanderVeen standing near smiling African American woman who is wearing a straw hat with a VanderVeen label. [color is mostly red now]	Box 3	Folder 20

Campaign candid

Title/Description	Instances	
VanderVeen with marching band members.	Box 3	Folder 21
VanderVeen with kid in baseball uniform, with ball with "CF" logo. Jules Schick photographs, Philadelphia, Pa. June 3, 1974.	Box 3	Folder 21
VanderVeen walking on dirt lane with couple, a barn in the background.	Box 3	Folder 21

Near view of VanderVeen center, with couple above at right, another man at left, and a different warehouse type behind and autos behind.	Box 3	Folder 21
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1974 Farmers' Market photo used in one of his newsletters. 8X10 b/w

Title/Description	Instances	
VanderVeen center talking with a woman a checkered apron left and a man with two baskets right, other displays of vegetables behind.	Box 3	Folder 22

Reference photocopies of images of Vanderveen in other GRPL Collection.

Title/Description	Instances	
297.9.5 & FF.XXX.B. 2 color photographs used in the Jan. 18, 2004 Grand Rapids Press article on VanderVeen and the VanderVeen Center for the Book. Grand Rapids Press Collection.	Box 3	Folder 23
138-5-5.	Box 3	Folder 23
046-23A-1. January 1975 Procurement conference. 4 b/w snapshots of VanderVeen with various individuals and speaking from the podium. Chamber of Commerce Collection.	Box 3	Folder 23
046-20A-26. Vanderveen on the phone with U.S. Flag left and U.S. Capitol visible behind him. Chamber of Commerce Collection.	Box 3	Folder 23
04-13-55. Photo sent to World Affairs Council, Dec. 30, 1975. World Affairs Council Collection.	Box 3	Folder 23
109-x-x. Images of VanderVeen at various ribbon cuttings for new or renovated Grand Rapids Public Library branch library buildings. 2001-	Box 3	Folder 23
Dick Vanderveen at far left, next to Andrew Young, 1974 Democratic Congressional freshmen members & leaders.	Box 4	
Dick Vanderveen seated at microphones, 1975 (2 images mounted on board)	Box 4	
Marion & Richard, ca. 200x, on the former Barbara Streisand Estate in Malibu, California, now part of the Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy, during a Meijer Garden sponsored tour.	Drawer FF.XIII.B	

Stereocards

Title/Description	Instances	
1. Camp at Buck Creek and the Grand River	Box 2	Folder 9
2. Macatawa Beach	Box 2	Folder 9

3. Macatawa life station	Box 2	Folder 9
4. Lodge on Black Lake	Box 2	Folder 9
5. Plaster Creek	Box 2	Folder 9
6. Madison Ave. bridge over Plaster Creek	Box 2	Folder 10
7. Grandville	Box 2	Folder 10
8. Telephone Rock on Lookout Mountain, Tennessee	Box 2	Folder 10
9. Sunset Rock, Lookout Mountain, Tennessee	Box 2	Folder 10
10. Unidentified landscape	Box 2	Folder 10

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Series V. Graphics

Scope and Contents

Included here is the political poster designed by Stephen Frykhom. Also included are bumper stickers, political signs, and campaign buttons.

A. Bumper Stickers

Title/Description	Instances
Oversized Bumper Sticker sampler	Drawer FF.XIII.B
Six different bumper stickers, plus on round graphic with multicolor streams, similar to the Frykhom poster, attached to a light weight beige board.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
"Vote VanderVeen for U.S. Senate, August 8, 1978 ..." pencil on back of beige base board.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
Vander Veen U.S. Congress. White on Navy	Drawer FF.XIII.B
Congressman Vander Veen. Red and Blue on White.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
Congressman Vander Veen. White on blue.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
VanderVeen U.S. Senate. Red on white.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
Vander Veen U.S. Senate. White on red.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
Vander Veen. VanderVeen '78 Committeee – John I Hoffmann, Treasurer. White on red.	Drawer FF.XIII.B

Round graphic. VanderVeen. Vanderveen '76 Committee – John I. Hoffmann, Treasurer.	Drawer FF.XIII.B
1 unattached oversized bumper sticker.	Drawer FF.XIII.B

Four unattached bumper stickers.

Title/Description	Instances	
First Your Register Then You Vote. Black on white or orange.	Box 2	Folder 6
VanderVeen U.S. Senate. Red on white.	Box 2	Folder 6
Congressman Vander Veen. Red and blue on white.	Box 2	Folder 6
Vote ... It Improves Your Constitution! Michigan Municipal League ... White on red.	Box 2	Folder 6

B. Political Signs

Title/Description	Instances
"Vanderveen. U.S. Congress" Blue lettering on white.	Drawer FF.XIII.B

C. Political Poster & memorabilia

Title/Description	Instances
Sign. Robert Vander Laan & Richard Vander Veen Debate, Feb. 7, 1974.	Box 4
Political Poster designed by graphic artist Stephen Frykhom (Herman Miller)	Box Framed FF
"Congressman DICK VANDERVEEN" Has a rainbow of colors (blue, green, yellow, organ red) on a background of white.	Box Framed FF
Graphic. "Thank you, Betsy, for doing so well your key role in our VV '76 Campaign. Dick VanderVeen Nov. 2, 1976. [Betsy Borre] 2004.063	Box Framed FF

D. Political Realia: Buttons & Badge

Title/Description	Instances
Yellow name badge with black typed lettering and green and red streamers. "Richard F. Vander Veen U.S. Congressman, Fifth District."	Box 6
Campaign button. Congressman Dick Vanderveen. White on navy.	Box 6
Campaign button. Vander Veen. U.S. Congress. Blue on white.	Box 6

Campaign button. Congressman Vander Veen. Red and blue on marbled white.	Box 6
Campaign badge. Metal with folding tab. "I'm Keen for Vander Veen" White on red.	Box 6

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Series VI. Miscellaneous

Scope and Contents

This section includes items related to other VanderVeen endeavors, such as founding the Ryerson Library Foundation, the creation of the VanderVeen Center for the Book, and a few catalogs from VanderVeen's rare book firm. Also, a sound recording for an event at TV Channel 13, which may have to do with VanderVeen's activities to obtain licensing for this Grand Rapids television station.

VanderVeen and Company, rare books

Title/Description	Instances	
Catalog no. 1, June 1973. (2 copies, 8/25/2006)	Box 1	Folder 26
Catalog no. 2, n.d. (2 copies, 8/25/2006)	Box 1	Folder 26
AB Bookman's Weekly. Mar. 4, 1974. Photocopy pg. 851. RE VanderVeen's win of Ford seat.	Box 1	Folder 26
VanderVeen & Co. Rare Books / Marion VanderVeen [brief history of the VanderVeen book business] [2006]	Box 1	Folder 26.5

VanderVeen, Grand Rapids Public Library Associations.

Title/Description	Instances	
Ryerson Foundation Letterhead, [1991-1992] with Richard F. Vander Veen, President	Box 1	Folder 27
VanderVeen Center for the Book, Grand Rapids Public Library	Box 1	Folder 28

Sound Recordings.

Title/Description	Instances	
Sound Recording. "Closer to Your World" Area 13, TV 13. WZZM, Sept. 10, 1973. [kit]	Box 2	Folder 8
7" sound recording "Move Closer to Your World"	Box 2	Folder 8
Flyer "Closer to Your World", including images of numerous individuals (unidentified). Lyrics to music "Move Close to Your World" Composed by Al Ham. Original folder containing the disk and the flyer, which was glued on the inside. This cover has an aerial view of TV 13 building on the back.	Box 2	Folder 8

"Move Closer to Your World. Audio cassette recording copied from the vinyl record. Box 6

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Series VII. Exhibits

General

Included here are exhibits created from materials in this archival collection or from other departmental reference sources, and placed in an exhibit case within the department to celebration or memorialize Richard VanderVeen.

Political Exhibit, 2004. This exhibit included images, realia and news which highlighted VanderVeen run for and seat in the U.S. Congress, 1974-1976.

Remembrance Exhibit, March 2006. this exhibit was prepare by staff to celebrate VanderVeen's life, on the occasion of his death.

Title/Description	Instances
Political Exhibit. Case, 2004	Box 4
Memorial Exhibit. Case, March 2006	Box 4

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Series VIII. Vander Veen Genealogy

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