



Library of Michigan's Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2008

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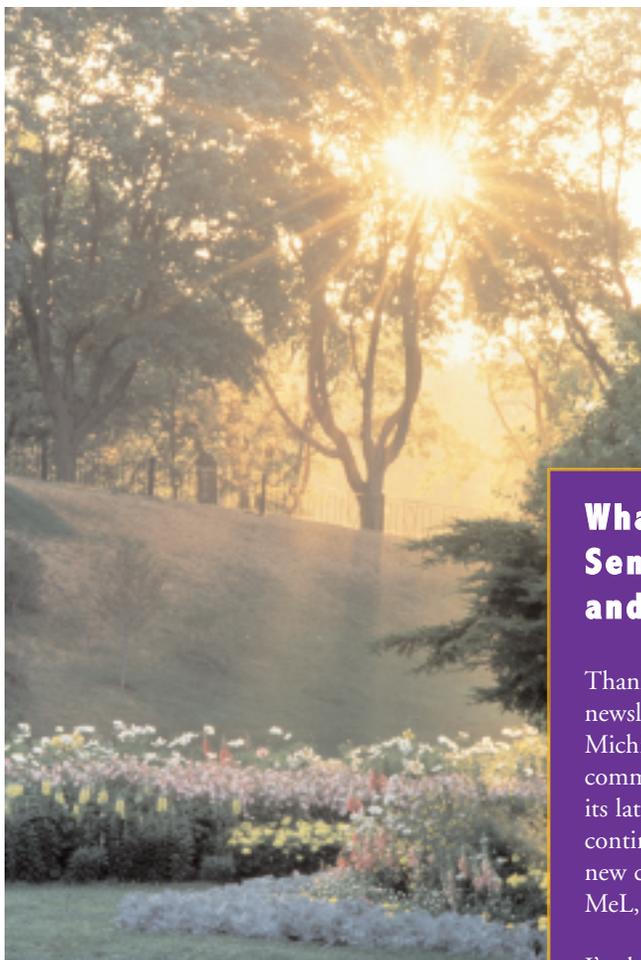
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**What Do You Think?
Send Us Your Comments
and Ideas!**

Thank you for reading *LM4X*. This newsletter is a place for the Library of Michigan to let the Michigan library community and supporters know about its latest news, upcoming events, continuing education opportunities, new collections, tips and tools for using MeL, library law issues and more.

I've been the *LM4X* editor for three issues now, and in that time, we've added some features and moved away from some others. Now I'd like to hear from you. Is there information you'd like to see included here that isn't? What do you think about the format? How can the Library of Michigan best meet your needs through *LM4X*? Please send feedback to me, Gloriane Peck, at peckg@michigan.gov.



News from Nancy

State Librarian Nancy R. Robertson

Happy spring, everyone! For librarians, thoughts of spring are almost automatically followed with a quick connection to March is Reading Month. Here at the Library of Michigan, we are excited about our ties to two worthwhile learning events.



On Saturday, March 8, 15 aspiring poets from high schools across Michigan gathered at the Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing for the third annual "Poetry Out Loud" state championship. The students, who each won their local contests, competed in a poetry recitation. First they recited two poems, after which four finalists were selected to recite a third poem. It was a fabulous afternoon, with amazing effort by the students, to the obvious delight of their teachers and families. It was tough competition, but Charles White of Forest Hills Central High School in Grand Rapids emerged as the state winner. Congratulations, Charles!

I applaud the Michigan Humanities Council for its leadership in shepherding the state arm of this National Endowment for the Humanities and The Poetry Foundation program. The Library of Michigan – along with Department of History, Arts and Libraries sister agency the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs – is proud to be a part of this inspiring annual competition. For more information on Poetry Out Loud, visit the Michigan Humanities Web site at <http://michiganhumanities.org>.

Moving the focus to slightly younger readers, March also saw the announcement of *Raccoon Tune* (written by Michigan author Nancy Shaw and illustrated by Howard Fine) as the 2008 title for Michigan Reads!, the Library of Michigan's popular and growing one-state, one-children's-book program that takes place in September.

Once again, we're thrilled to have the backing of Target as the program's sole corporate sponsor, providing truly generous support through the Library of Michigan Foundation. We look forward to providing libraries, schools, Head Start and school readiness programs with copies of *Raccoon Tune* and program guides and materials.

Michigan Reads! provides the perfect opportunity to encourage reading early and often to Michigan's youngest readers, and *Raccoon Tune* is an engaging, colorful and entertaining story sure to hook kids' interest. For more information and to keep up with developments in the program as it evolves during the spring and summer, visit <http://www.michigan.gov/michiganreads>.

Nancy

LM News

Hemingway's Secretary to Speak April 23 on Life with Author, Family

By Gloriane Peck, special collections librarian

The Library of Michigan will host a book signing, talk and Q&A session with Valerie Hemingway in April as part of The Great Michigan Read statewide reading program. Valerie Hemingway is the author of *Running with the Bulls*, a memoir of her years as Ernest Hemingway's secretary and her later marriage to his youngest son, Gregory Hemingway.



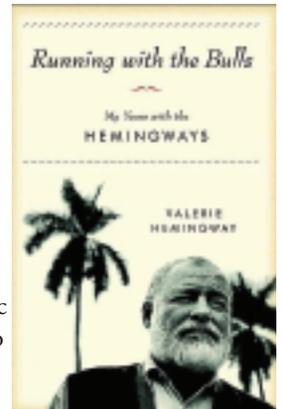
Hemingway's visit – sponsored by the Michigan Humanities Council, the Library of Michigan and the Library of Michigan Foundation – is set for 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 23 at the Library of Michigan in downtown Lansing. This event is free and open to the public, including school groups and book clubs. *Running with the Bulls* will be on sale in the Michigan Historical Museum store.

A journalist working in Madrid, Valerie Danby-Smith met Ernest Hemingway in 1959. She served as his secretary in Spain, France and Cuba from 1959 to 1960, and, following his death, she worked for the Hemingway estate. She later worked in publishing and public relations in New York.



Running with the Bulls author Valerie Hemingway will talk about her life as Ernest Hemingway's secretary and daughter-in-law on April 23.

A traveling exhibit, "Up North with the Hemingways," coincides with Hemingway's visit. At the Library from April 18 to May 5, the exhibit focuses on the influence of northern Michigan on Ernest Hemingway and *The Nick Adams Stories*. The exhibit will be set up in the rotunda of the Michigan Library and Historical Center and is open to the public 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays.



The Nick Adams Stories, which chronicles a young man's coming of age in a series of short stories, is the featured book of The Great Michigan Read, a program of the Michigan Humanities Council. For more information, please go to <http://www.greatmichiganread.org>.

Coming in July!

The two-day Abrams Genealogy Seminar is set for July. Watch for details in the next issue of LM4X and online at <http://www.michigan.gov/familyhistory>.

Michigan Receives National Award for Library Data Usage

By Terri Doyen Assaf, library data coordinator

Michigan was honored in January with the 2007 Helen M. Eckard Award for Exemplary Use of Public Library Data, given by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

An engraved plaque with working abacus was presented to library data coordinator Terri Assaf and State Librarian Nancy R. Robertson. In congratulating Assaf for her work, Robertson said she is pleased with the recognition this award brings to Michigan's library statistics.

The Public Library Statistics Cooperative Steering Committee's subcommittee on data use selected the award recipients, which also included Kentucky and Connecticut.

The Eckard award is given "to honor innovative and exemplary use of the Federal-State Cooperative System and public library data," and Michigan was honored specifically for the library statistics on the Library of Michigan Web site, www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan. The data use subcommittee examined each state's Web site and gave several reasons for honoring Michigan with the award:

"The stand-out feature of Michigan's annual statistical report for public libraries is its Data Digest. The high production values of this publication give it a very professional appearance, but this document's beauty is more than skin-deep. It includes several useful presentations of public library data, including 'Bookmark This' statistical comparisons, a 'Day in the Life' profile of the state's public libraries, and a basic, but impressive, return-on-investment piece titled, 'What Are Michigan Libraries Worth?'"

First presented in 1995, the award is named for the late Eckard, an NCES staff member who provided outstanding leadership as a professional librarian for the support of the Library Statistics Program.

Using Library Statistics

Statistics are collected from more than 9,000 public libraries nationwide via the Federal-State Cooperative System. The Institute of Museum and Library Services assumed responsibility for the Library Statistics Program in 2007. The Library Statistics Program is now available online at <http://harvester.census.gov/imls/index.asp>. This site includes data files from fiscal years 1992 through 2005 for individual public libraries and for aggregated state and national levels.

Site users may create reports comparing one library of interest to other libraries. Compare Public Libraries uses fiscal year 2005 data from the Public Libraries Survey, which was conducted by NCES. Michigan's public library data for fiscal year 2005 was submitted to NCES using information provided by libraries on the 2005/2006 Annual Report/State Aid Application.

The 2006/2007 Annual Report/State Aid Application data are being compiled and soon will be available online. Users will be able to access this information by going to www.michigan.gov/lds and clicking on the link to Library Statistics and State Aid.

The 2007 Michigan Public Libraries Data Digest also will be online shortly. The Data Digest provides quick reference to library data submitted on the Annual Report/State Aid Application.

Data submission from libraries is on an annual cycle from Oct. 1 to Feb. 1. The library data coordinator reviews, analyzes, compiles and submits the data to the federal government via the Federal-State Cooperative System for public library data. The 2007/2008 cycle recently concluded and data will be reported to the federal system by August.

Michigan public library statistics are vital and significant because of the diligence and earnestness of the reporting libraries. Library stakeholders, within Michigan and nationwide, utilize data to evaluate their current circumstances as well as to plan for the future. Many thanks go out to all public, LBPH and cooperative libraries and personnel who have worked to provide information to the Library of Michigan. The cooperative directors' invaluable assistance in the data collection is especially appreciated.



Library data coordinator Terri Assaf (left) and State Librarian Nancy R. Robertson enjoy the honor of Michigan winning the Helen M. Eckard Award for Exemplary Use of Public Library Data. The recognition celebrates innovative and exemplary use of public library data.

Modeling the Future: The New LSTA Subgrant Program

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

In the *Five-Year Plan for Michigan, October 2007 through September 2012*, the Library of Michigan developed a new way to offer LSTA subgrants.

Throughout the evaluation process for the previous five-year plan and the state librarian's town meetings, we heard that the former LSTA subgrant program was not always successful at funding innovative projects or publicizing successful project results. We also heard loud and clear that the primary focus of LSTA funding should be MeL, the Michigan eLibrary, and MeLCat. Finally, we heard clearly that new technologies and programming are difficult to develop in rural and underserved areas.

To put more emphasis on innovation, provide information on successful projects and meet the need for assistance with new technologies and programming in rural and underserved areas, we devised the Modeling the Future grant program.

The new grant program will take the place of the former subgrant program and will meet the third goal of the Five-Year Plan:

Goal III: Equity in Innovation

Foster new, innovative services and programs by funding scalable pilot projects for use by libraries statewide to meet and anticipate Michigan residents' constantly changing needs for library services and information.

We are developing a process and materials for the new grant program, which will fund the development of innovative services or programs applicable to all libraries. For those libraries interested in applying, we will offer up to five grants each fiscal year that we offer the program. This will not be an annual program but instead will be available as funding allows. Cash matches will no longer be required, but grant-funded projects will include the creation of a scalable project manual for use by other libraries of any size.

Look for more information on the Modeling the Future grant program this spring at <http://www.michigan.gov/lsta>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karren Reish at kreish@michigan.gov or (517) 241-0021.



Michigan Center for the Book Helps 12 Michigan Libraries Offer Events that Encourage Reading

The Michigan Center for the Book has awarded a total of \$4,650 in grants to 12 libraries and other organizations throughout the state to help fund events that promote books and reading.

Grants awarded include:

- Grand Rapids Public Library - \$500 for the Celebration of the Book on Oct. 18
- Engadine Public Library - \$250 for a visit from children's author Leslie Helakoski on July 27
- Fremont Area District Library - \$500 for Newaygo County Reads in fall 2008
- Hillsdale Community Library - \$500 for Hillsdale County Reads in April
- Howell Carnegie District Library - \$500 for Livingston Reads in February through April
- Metro Net Library Consortium - \$500 for Everyone's Reading The Beekeeper's Apprentice in February through April
- Michigan Technological University - \$250 for the River of Words Poetry Contest in Spring 2008
- Mount Clemens Public Library - \$200 for the Macomb Book Fair and Writers' Conference, which took place Feb. 9
- Otsego County Library - \$250 for Celebrating the CCC in April
- Rochester Hills Public Library - \$200 for Authors Live @ the Library with Mary Doria Russell on March 11
- Saginaw Valley State University - \$500 for the Theodore Roethke Centennial Celebration on April 7
- Southfield Public Library - \$500 for the Books & Beyond Festival on Sept. 20-21.

The Michigan Center for the Book partially funds events or projects that fulfill its goal of promoting an awareness of books, reading, literacy, authors and Michigan's rich literary heritage. The events must be free and open to the public; the sponsoring organization must be a Michigan-based nonprofit organization, library or school; and the request for funds must be no more than 50 percent of the total budget or no more than \$500, whichever is less. Funding for the grants comes from dues paid by the affiliate members of the Michigan Center for the Book.

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The Michigan Center for the Book is a program of the Library of Michigan and the center's affiliates. It is also the Michigan affiliate of the National Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. To learn more, visit <http://michigan.gov/mcfb>.

Microfilm Scanner Offers Patrons More Flexibility

The Library of Michigan recently added a microfilm scanner to allow patrons to create digital images of microfilmed newspaper articles, ship passenger lists, death certificates and more.



The Library of Michigan recently added a microfilm scanner that allows users to save to a flash drive digital copies of microfilmed newspaper articles, death certificates, passenger lists and more.

Attached to a microfilm reader-printer in the Newspaper Room on the second floor of the Library, the scanner still may be used for traditional printing. Users scanning images may save files to a flash drive. After setting up the microfilm on the reader-printer, users are prompted to name the file and click a couple buttons to scan and save the image using the attached computer.

Next time you are at the Library, please give the scanner a try. Staff members are happy to assist.

Noteworthy New Items at the Library of Michigan

To see what's new at the Library of Michigan, go to ANSWER, the Library's online catalog, at <http://www.answercat.org> and click the button "Check for New Books." Here are a few notable items that have arrived recently:

Abrams Foundation Historical Collection

Register of Indians in World War I. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2001.
Genealogy Microfilm D 570.8.I6 R44 2001

Records of the Five Civilized Tribes Agency, Office of Superintendent.

Record of Invalid Pension Payments to Veterans of the Revolutionary War and the Regular Army and Navy, March 1801-September 1815. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1993.

Genealogy Microfilm E 255 .R43 1993

Eaton, Joseph H. *Returns of Killed and Wounded in Battles or Engagements with Indians and British and Mexican Troops, 1790-1848.* Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1999.

Genealogy Microfilm E 338 .E38 1999

Returns of the killed and wounded American troops in battles or engagements with Indians, British or Mexican troops from 1790 to the close of the war with Mexico in 1848.

Index to Pension Application Files of Remarried Widows Based on Service in the War of 1812, Indian Wars, Mexican War and Regular Army Before 1861. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1993.

Genealogy Microfilm E 359.4 .I53 1993

Michigan Collection

Grand Rapids Herald. Grand Rapids, MI. 1898-1959.

Microfilm
Newspaper

With this recent addition, the Library of Michigan now has a run of this defunct Grand Rapids newspaper from 1898 to 1959. More importantly, our collection now includes all the records indexed in the Western Michigan Genealogical Society's outstanding online obituary index for the Grand Rapids area from 1910 to the present [<http://data.wmgs.org/Newspapers/>]. These newspapers, and all of our Michigan newspaper collection on microfilm, are available to Michigan libraries via interlibrary loan (ILL).

Not only an important tool for historical research in local communities, newspapers also contain significant genealogical value, including obituaries, weddings, military honors, society and gossip news, local disasters, probate notices, fraternal organizations, advertisements and much more.

Similar online indexes to local newspapers are available for a number of other Michigan communities, including Battle Creek, Brighton, Charlevoix, Chelsea, Holland, Kalamazoo, Lansing and Saginaw. Connect to these indexes using the Library's genealogy Web site, <http://www.michigan.gov/familyhistory>. Many of the published indexes — and the newspapers themselves — are available onsite at the Library of Michigan, as well as through the ILL network.

2008 Michigan Notable Books List Features Best of Michigan Literature

Announced this winter by the Library of Michigan, the 2008 Michigan Notable Books showcase the diverse experiences of Michigan's people and life in the Great Lakes State. From both well-loved writers and first-time authors, these 20 books highlight Michigan people, places and events.



This selection of books published in 2007 demonstrates the variety present both in Michigan life and in its literature: conversations with President Gerald Ford; the involvement of and impact on Michigan in the Civil War, World War II and Vietnam War; poetry that celebrates Michigan's natural wonders; novels that use Michigan backgrounds to tell stories of family or intrigue; and tributes to Michigan's unique art, architecture and music, and the finest in Michigan foods and wines.

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“For seven years the Library of Michigan has honored the best in Michigan literature, and this year is no different,” State Librarian Nancy R. Robertson said. “This year’s Michigan Notable Books offer compelling reads that reach far beyond the borders of the Great Lakes State with their power to touch readers and their contributions to Michigan’s rich literary culture.”

Each year, the Michigan Notable Books list features 20 books published the previous calendar year that are about or set in Michigan or the Great Lakes region or are written by a native or resident of Michigan. Selections include nonfiction and fiction and typically have a wide appeal to the audience, covering a range of topics and issues close to the hearts of Michigan residents.

This year’s Michigan Notable Books selection committee included representatives from the Library of Michigan, Borders Inc., Capital Area District Library, Cooley Law School, *The Detroit News*, Grand Valley State University, *Lansing City Pulse*, Michigan Center for the Book, Michigan Historical Center, Mideastern Library Cooperative, ProQuest Information and Learning, Schuler Books & Music and the *Traverse City Record-Eagle*.

The programming and author tour centered around the Library of Michigan’s 2008 Michigan Notable Books list is sponsored by the Michigan Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, Cooley Law School, ProQuest, Meijer, Borders, Auto Owners Insurance, LaSalle Bank/Bank of America, the Library of Michigan, the Library of Michigan Foundation, Michigan Center for the Book and Schuler Books & Music. Media partners for this project are WKAR and the *Lansing State Journal*.

The 2008 Michigan Notable Books are:

Alden B. Dow: Midwestern Modern, by Diane Maddex (Alden B. Dow Home & Studio, distributed by W.W. Norton & Company) - This tribute to Midland native and nationally renowned architect Alden B. Dow (1904-1983) celebrates his creative and innovative designs for homes, churches, schools and government buildings, as well as his life philosophies of honesty, humility and enthusiasm. In his half-century career, Dow designed more than 600 structures, more than 100 of which were built in Midland, making the town a monument to his talent. Filled with vivid photos and design elements that reflect Dow’s own style, the book also provides a detailed tour of the Alden B. Dow Home and Studio in Midland.

Connecting the Dots: Tyree Guyton’s Heidelberg Project (Wayne State University Press) - A remarkable story of an artist’s quest to transform his urban neighborhood, *Connecting the Dots* explores both the beginning of Tyree Guyton’s journey as an artist and his impact on his Heidelberg Street neighborhood in Detroit. The book covers the controversies surrounding the project, the hopes of the artist, and a glimpse at the plans for the future.

Elijah of Buxton, by Christopher Paul Curtis (Scholastic) - Few writers blend history, humor, and insights into human behavior better than Curtis, winner of the 2005 Michigan Author Award. In this young adult story set in Buxton, Ontario, Curtis explores the growth and travails of Elijah, a young African-American boy born free in Buxton, who travels into Detroit in search of a thief. Much more happens to him than he expects, and Elijah is forever changed by his encounters

with the dark reality of slavery. The book is both heartbreaking and inspiring as Elijah grows into a deeper understanding of his history and legacy.

The Father of All Things: A Marine, His Son, and the Legacy of Vietnam, by Tom Bissell (Pantheon Books) - In this touching account of a son’s struggle to understand his father’s experiences in Vietnam, Bissell documents his travels with his father back to Vietnam, and offers a fresh perspective on the war there and the impact it made on the children of Vietnam veterans. A native of Escanaba, Bissell successfully illustrates that wars never really end for soldiers or their children.

Fork in the Road with Eric Villegas, by Eric Villegas (Huron River Press) - Based on chef and restaurateur Eric Villegas’s award-winning PBS cooking show, *Fork in the Road* features recipes rich in Michigan’s best local ingredients. Organized by regions of the state (The Fruit Belt, Middle of the Mitt), these recipes affirm the diverse food heritage of the Great Lakes region. All the while, Villegas’ energetic and lively personality comes through in conversational sidebars discussing Michigan’s agriculture and history. Mouth-watering photos showcase most of the dishes, and additional photos, from waterfalls to roadside food stands, evoke the spirit of Michigan.

From the Vine: Exploring Michigan Wineries, by Sharon Kegerreis and Lorri Hathaway (Ann Arbor Media Group) - Michigan’s eclectic vineyards are showcased in this gorgeous introduction to Michigan’s wines and the special people behind them. Experience Michigan’s welcoming wine culture behind the scenes with Kegerreis and Hathaway, and discover the stories, the legends of wine making, and the marvels of the grape.

Iggy Pop: Open Up and Bleed, by Paul Trynka (Broadway Books) - Nicknamed “The Godfather of Punk,” Iggy Pop rose out of Ann Arbor to front The Stooges, one of America’s most influential rock ‘n’ roll bands; the musical genres of punk, glam and New Wave were all heavily influenced by Iggy’s performances. Trynka’s work is the first full biography of Iggy Pop (James Osterberg Jr.), yet is more than just a story of his life. It also illustrates the enormous role Ann Arbor and Detroit played in the development of the alternative music scene and provides a tragic depiction of the death of the hippie dream.

Mackinac Bridge: A 50-Year Chronicle, 1957- 2007, by Mike Fornes (Cheboygan Tribune Printing Co.) - Filled with details of day-to-day life on the Big Mac, *Mackinac Bridge* honors the history of the bridge that united Michigan’s two peninsulas and became a symbol of the Great Lakes State. Combining exhaustive research and interviews, Fornes recounts tales of the routine (toll collections), the celebratory (the 100 millionth vehicle across the bridge) and the grim (traffic fatalities), while the extensive use of photos and memorabilia complement these stories and provide a unique visual perspective.

“My Brave Mechanics:” The First Michigan Engineers and Their Civil War, by Mark Hoffman (Wayne State University Press) - Letters, diaries, regimental records, and local newspapers enrich this compelling history of the 1st Michigan Engineers and Mechanics. The state’s only such Civil War unit, the regiment was largely composed of skilled craftsmen and artisans. After training at Camp Owen in Marshall in 1861, the unit moved south and fought to maintain and

continued

support the Union supply lines in the Civil War's Western Theater, building and repairing bridges, railroads, and telegraph lines.

One Thousand Tracings: Healing the Wounds of World War II, by Lita Judge (Hyperion Books for Children) - The very special and lovingly illustrated story of Judge's mother and grandmother, set during World War II in Pinckney. During the war, Judge's grandmother received an appeal from German friends who were starving and cold, and from this one simple request, a refugee assistance effort began, supported by ornithologists across the United States and Pinckney residents. By sending hope and kindness in the care packages, these people began healing the wounds of war.

Paper Tiger: One Athlete's Journey to the Underbelly of Pro Football, by Ted A. Kluck (Lyons Press) - Combining the behind-the-scenes journalism of Paper Lion with the sports humor of Bull Durham, Kluck details his season as a long snapper with the Battle Creek Crunch of the Great Lakes Indoor Football League. In this near-bottom rung of professional football, teams struggle to make ends meet and players refuse to abandon their love of the game in their fight for one last shot at gridiron glory.

A Primer on Parallel Lives, by Dan Gerber (Copper Canyon Press) - Gerber's seventh book of poetry explores his fears and doubts as a youth growing up in western Michigan and reveals the landscape of his current home on California's central coast. Nature and observations of the world around him are central to Gerber's poems. His poetry explores everyday experiences and images, successfully converting them into something unique and magical. Gerber won the 1992 Michigan Author Award and is a past recipient of the Mark Twain Award.

The Red Parts: A Memoir, by Maggie Nelson (Free Press) - Originally considered one of the famous "Michigan Murders" that occurred in Ann Arbor in the 1960's, Jane Mixer was brutally murdered in 1969. Just as Nelson - Mixer's niece - was publishing a collection of poetry in 2005 reflecting on the family tragedy, new DNA evidence surfaced, implicating a new suspect, a retired nurse from Gobles. This memoir, a deeply personal search for closure, moves seamlessly between the author's recollections of her father's death, her sister's rebelliousness, and the new trial.

Returning to Earth, by Jim Harrison (Grove Press) - Northern Michigan plays a pivotal role in Harrison's ninth novel. Determined to chronicle his family's history before he dies, Donald Burkett is a 45-year-old Chippewa-Finnish man afflicted with Lou Gehrig's disease. This tender novel explores life, death, and finding redemption in unlikely places, as Donald's struggle with his disease encourages his loved ones to conquer their troubled past by letting it go.

Sailing Grace, by John Otterbacher (Samadhi Press) - Former Michigan legislator Otterbacher of Grand Rapids shares this inspiring tale of his personal triumph over open-heart surgery. In his sailboat named Grace, Otterbacher, together with his wife and two daughters, sails across the Atlantic Ocean to Ireland, overcoming both Mother Nature and his medical struggles.

The Sound the Stars Make Rushing Through the Sky: The Writings of Jane Johnston Schoolcraft, edited by Robert Dale Parker (University of Pennsylvania Press) - Parker recovers and revives the life story and literature of largely unknown Ojibwe poet and writer Jane Johnston Schoolcraft (1800-1842). Born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie by her Ojibwe mother and Irish-born father, Schoolcraft is the first known American Indian literary writer. Although Schoolcraft did not publish her work, Parker's thorough research led him to her poems and traditional stories, as well as her translations of Ojibwe songs and other texts into English. Publishing them in most cases for the first time, Parker also provides insights into and interpretations of her life and work.

Stealing Buddha's Dinner: A Memoir, by Bich Minh Nguyen (Viking) - As a Vietnamese immigrant coming of age in Grand Rapids in the 1980s, Bich Minh Nguyen longed to fit in with her blond-haired, blue-eyed peers. Nguyen blends stories of struggles and anxieties at home and school with her hunger for American snack foods, music and television, both as an exotic treat and as a symbol of American identity. With a frank and powerful voice, Nguyen writes of building her own identity amid often conflicting cultures.

Sweetie Pies: An Uncommon Collection of Womanish Observations, with Pie, by Patty Pinner (Taunton Press) - Saginaw native Pinner filled this beautiful memoir with stories of family and friends, and their beloved recipes. Stirred together with recommendations on living life fully and making the most delicious pies imaginable, this book is a treasure and a delectable delight.

Up in Honey's Room, by Elmore Leonard (William Morrow) - Leonard, the 1996 Michigan Author Award winner, sets his latest novel in 1945 Detroit. U.S. Marshal Carl Webster hopes to use the free-spirited Honey Deal to track down a pair of escaped German POW's hiding out with Honey's ex-husband, Walter. Complete with German spies, a transvestite killer, and Nazi look-alikes, Leonard's dialogue is fast-paced and clever, leading up to the final wild sequence of events "up in Honey's room."

Write It When I'm Gone: Remarkable Off-the-Record Conversations With Gerald R. Ford, by Thomas M. DeFrank (G.P. Putnam's Sons) - Including years of private conversations with President Gerald R. Ford, DeFrank's book offers great insight into Ford's personality, as well as revealing a little-known and profoundly different side of President Ford. The Newsweek correspondent illustrates many of Ford's thoughts on today's political landscape and contains a unique glimpse into the private person behind the public figure.

On the Web:

www.michigan.gov/notablebooks

Michigan Notable Books Authors to Visit 57 Libraries Statewide in April and May

In April and May, the 2008 Michigan Notable Book authors will be touring the state for a series of free presentations and book signings at school, academic and public libraries. The authors will be visiting 57 libraries across the state, with stops ranging from Iron Mountain to Temperance and from Grand Rapids to Alpena.

Fifteen of this year's 20 selected authors will be participating in the tour, Paul Trynka, Maggie Nelson, Ted Kluck, Mark Hoffman, Sharon Kegerreis and Lorri Hathaway, Tyree Guyton, Mike Fornes, Robert Dale Parker, John Otterbacher, Thomas DeFrank, Patty Pinner, Lita Judge, Eric Villegas and Diane Maddex. Trynka will be traveling to Michigan from London to take part in this year's programs.

"The Michigan Notable Book program is unique because a big part of it involves getting accomplished authors into libraries to rub shoulders with readers," said Randy Riley, co-chair of the Michigan Notable Books selection committee. "Michigan continues to have an unlimited number of colorful and significant stories to tell and is blessed with so many talented writers and illustrators. This program attempts to shine a spotlight on these books."

Visit the Library of Michigan's Michigan Notable Books Web page at www.michigan.gov/notablebooks for more information on the program and a complete schedule of this year's author tour.

Guests will enjoy a generous sampling of Villegas' recipes, Michigan wines and book signings by many of the 2008 Michigan Notable Books authors. Known for his namesake restaurant and his love of local food, Villegas has shared his culinary passion and zest for life in his award-winning PBS show "Fork in the Road with Eric Villegas" since 2001, where he tirelessly seeks out the artisan growers, farmers, ranchers and fishmongers that produce top-quality foods throughout Michigan.

Scheduled for 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Library of Michigan in downtown Lansing, "A Night for Notables" is open to the public. Tickets are \$35, and guests will have a chance to win five of the 2008 Michigan Notable Books, all signed by the authors. To reserve a spot and get more details, call (517) 373-4692. The Library of Michigan is located at 702 W. Kalamazoo St. A portion of the evening's proceeds will be used to support the Library of Michigan's special collections and programs.

Governor Jennifer Granholm and First Gentleman Dan Mulhern will host a private pre-event reception in honor of the authors on April 26 at the Governor's Residence. That evening the Library of Michigan Foundation will donate a signed copy of each of the 2008 Michigan Notable Books to the permanent collection in the Governor's Residence library.

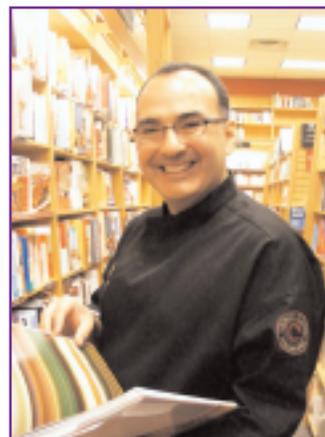
The 2008 Michigan Notable Books program is sponsored by Borders, Cooley Law School, ProQuest, Meijer, the Michigan Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Library of Michigan, the Library of Michigan Foundation, Auto-Owners Insurance Company, Delta Dental, LaSalle Bank/Bank of America, the Michigan Center for the Book, Schuler Books & Music, Daniel and Victoria Arbour, and Paul and Marge Byington. Media partners for this project are WKAR and the *Lansing State Journal*.

LM Foundation

Night for Notables, Featuring Eric Villegas Set for April 26

By Judith K. Moore, executive director,
Library of Michigan Foundation

On Saturday, April 26, the Library of Michigan Foundation will host "A Night for Notables," a special event honoring the 2008 Michigan Notable Books, which highlight Michigan people, places and events. The evening will feature a tribute to the authors by State Librarian Nancy Robertson, followed by keynote speaker Eric Villegas, chef and author of *Fork in the Road*, one of the year's 20 Michigan Notable Books.



Fork in the Road author and chef Eric Villegas will be the keynote speaker at "A Night for Notables" on April 26.

When: 7 p.m. Saturday, April 26
Where: Library of Michigan
Cost: \$35

MeL - The Library Made with Me in Mind!

Deb Biggs Thomas Joins LM as New MeL Coordinator

By *Gloriane Peck, special collections
librarian*

The Library of Michigan welcomed Deb Biggs Thomas as its MeL coordinator in January. Deb brings a wide range of experience to her new position, from academic libraries to a small public library and from public services to marketing and public relations.



Deb Biggs Thomas

A large aspect of Deb's new job is marketing and promotion of MeL, the Michigan eLibrary. She will be out and about in the library community presenting MeL sessions at conferences and working with libraries to educate people about MeL. She also plans to reach out to new user groups, including homeschoolers, small business owners and entrepreneurs.

Before coming to the Library, Deb served as a reference and instruction librarian at Washtenaw Community College. She also spent two years as the director of LOEX, a non-profit educational clearinghouse for library instruction and information literacy information at Eastern Michigan University. In another job, Deb worked in marketing and public relations at a small software company that catered to libraries. As her public services experience has been mostly at academic libraries, Deb recently began subbing at a small public library, where she is learning more about the differences and similarities among public and academic libraries, experience she will draw upon in her work with MeL.

"That's what's kept me in the profession — the opportunity to work in different aspects of the library world. That's important to me," Deb said. "I think librarianship is a good field for dabblers, like myself. I've really enjoyed being able to put my two cents' worth into the wide variety of library positions I've had. Skills are definitely transferable in this profession!"

Born and raised in Ohio, Deb earned her library degree at the University of Michigan. In addition to her work, Deb serves on the board of the Marketing and Public Relations Roundtable of the Michigan Library Association.

Deb is married, has a 17-year-old son and two cats. Her interests include traveling, scrapbooking about her travels and reading.

Contact Deb

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(517) 373-4466

Learn more about MeL

<http://mel.org>

MeL Information

www.michigan.gov/mel

MeL News for Libraries

<http://michigan-elibrary.blogspot.com>

MeL News for Users

<http://mel-news.blogspot.com>

MeL Best of the Web: Health, Medicine and Wellness

By *Sonya Norris, Web site administrator*

MeL's Best of the Web: Health, Medicine and Wellness features a unique and specific look at health care resources in Michigan, including associations, and support and referral groups ranging from the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan to the Wayne County Medical Society of Southeastern Michigan. It also includes a list of physician finders, including the Health Services License Look-Up, which provides licensing and complaint information and regional services such as the Upper Peninsula Health Care Network physician listing. MeL also provides a section on Evaluating Health Resources on the Internet.



MeL Best of the Web is a browseable, searchable collection of online resources from around Michigan and across the Internet. It strives to provide high-quality resources particularly important to people seeking information related to Michigan within subjects such as the automotive industry, history and genealogy. Best of the Web includes the highest-quality Internet resources on each topic, selected by librarians for both patrons and librarians. You can browse Best of the Web by selecting a subject on the left side of the MeL home page.

The MeL staff would like to thank Marie-Lise Shams, MeL selector for Health, Medicine and Wellness, and Renoir Gaither of the University of Michigan, selector for Health, Medicine and Wellness—Smoking.

To visit Health, Medicine and Wellness, go to the left column of <http://mel.org> and click on Health, Medicine and Wellness.

MeL Database Spotlight: NoveList

By Sonya Norris, Web site administrator

MeL is pleased to feature the readers' advisory tool NoveList from EBSCO Publishing. New to MeL in October 2007, NoveList provides readers' advisory information for the public as well as specific support for librarians and teachers. Librarians may be interested in the professional development tool "Talking with Readers: A Workbook for Readers' Advisors and Their Services," developed by the Minnesota Library Development and Services Division and NoveList. It includes a self-assessment and development guide for librarians to use in strengthening their readers' advisory skills by identifying specific competencies and steps for improving in this area of patron service.

School media specialists will be interested in the "School Resources" tab that includes teaching with fiction, book talks for children and young adults, book discussion guides for young adults, picture book extenders and even author biographies.

NoveList also provides traditional book-locating assistance for librarians and patrons alike through author, title, series and plot searches. You can browse lists of award-winners, lists of genres and reading lists based on age. Check out NoveList at <http://mel.org> or go to <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip.uid&profile=novelist>.

MeL by the Numbers

As of March 2008, total libraries participating in MeLCat:

Academic: 42

Public: 183

K-12: 24

Special (gov't, tribal, coop): 4

Items available in MeLCat: 26.2 million (7.86 bibliographic records)

Average weekly MeLCat requests: 7,435 requests

So far in 2008, MeL has had 164,874 requests, with a fulfillment rate of 89.3 percent



Get Smart

Registration Under Way for Beginning Workshop, New Directors Workshop

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

New Directors Workshop and Beginning Workshop are back and better than ever. New Directors Workshop will be held May 19-20 and Beginning Workshop May 20-22, both at North Central Michigan College in Petoskey.

Intended for paraprofessional staff needing a basic background in library topics, Beginning Workshop will provide 3.2 CEUs for initial Level VII certification. Participants will complete .8 CEUs before the workshop through free online classes.

New Directors Workshop, intended for directors and trustees of public libraries needing a basic background in library management topics, will provide 1.2 CEUs.

An agenda and registration form for each workshop is available online at <http://www.michigan.gov/lma> or <http://www.michigan.gov/ldds>. The cost is \$60 for New Directors Workshop and \$100 for Beginning Workshop, including meals. Information on hotel rates is included in the registration packet.

QSAC Quality Counts

QSAC: Grist for the Advocacy Mill

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

The three Quality Service Audit Checklist (QSAC) service levels are intended to help libraries in a variety of ways, including advocacy. The Essential standards can be a tool to educate funding decision-makers and patrons on what goes into providing successful basic library services and to demonstrate to a community what it gets for its tax dollars.

The human resources and governance standards assure the local community that the library is managed ethically and competently.

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The services, collection development and technology standards provide assurance that appropriate, quality services and materials are there for the community. The facilities and equipment standards show that the library staff is maintaining the facility and how welcoming the library is to the entire community.

The public relations standards demonstrate how the library is making the community aware of what is available.

The Enhanced and Excellent levels can be used as examples of the quality services and materials that improved funding can provide for the community. At each level, the standards provide an objective, external quality standard. Meeting the standards provides evidence of the consistent, high-quality service the library provides to its community. Along with statistics, reports and anecdotes from patrons, QSAC can add depth to your advocacy campaign!

All you need to get started with QSAC is available at <http://www.michigan.gov/qsac> or by contacting Karren Reish at kreish@michigan.gov.

New QSAC Libraries

Congratulations to the following libraries, which recently achieved certification!

New Essential Level Libraries

- Capital Area District Library – October 2007
- William P. Faust Public Library of Westland – November 2007
- Fife Lake Public Library – December 2007
- Milan Public Library – December 2007

New Enhanced Level Libraries

- Capital Area District Library – October 2007
- Salem-South Lyon District Library – January 2008

Current QSAC Certification Statistics

	Libraries	Cooperatives
Essential:	138	6
Enhanced:	23	4
Excellent:	3	2

Upcoming QSAC Workshops - Free, .3 CEUs

April 22 at Mid-Michigan Library League in Cadillac

July 15 at Plymouth District Library

July 25 at Flint Public Library

Register at <http://www.michigan.gov/ldds>.

Surveillance Tapes and the Michigan Library Privacy Act

By Lance Werner, library law specialist



Once in awhile I receive questions about whether security tapes or surveillance videos should be considered “library records” under the Michigan Library Privacy Act (the Privacy Act), 1982 PA 455, MCL 397.601 *et seq.* I do not have a definitive answer to this question. However, I would like to discuss the options. The final answer must be determined by the governing board at each of Michigan’s public libraries, preferably in consultation with the library’s legal counsel, and included in writing in the library’s policies.

I would be remiss if I did not mention that I am always obligated to maintain the most conservative stance when furnishing information about legal issues.

In order to adequately address this issue, it is necessary to review the definition of “library record” in the Privacy Act. Section 2(i) of the Privacy Act, MCL 397.602(i) defines “library record” as:

“Library record” means a document, record or other method of storing information retained by a library that contains information that personally identifies a library patron, including the patron’s name, address or telephone number, or that identifies a person as having requested or obtained specific materials from a library. Library record does not include non-identifying material that may be retained for the purpose of studying or evaluating the circulation of library materials in general.

If security tapes are considered as library records, they must be kept confidential in accordance with section 3(2) of the Privacy Act, MCL 397.603(2) that provides:

Unless ordered by a court after giving the affected library notice of the request and an opportunity to be heard on the request, a library or an employee or agent of a library shall not release or disclose a library record or portion of a library record to a person without the written consent of the person liable for payment for or return of the materials identified in that library record.

Arguments can be made on both sides of the issue as to whether or not a surveillance tape would be considered as a library record.

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One argument is that since the library is a limited public forum, people who enter the library have no expectation of privacy with respect to their physical presence there. It can be argued further that a surveillance video does not contain people's names, phone numbers and addresses, and therefore cannot be considered a library record. Creating a surveillance tape may be considered a regular library business function and therefore disclosure of the tape to authorities would be permissible. This is the same mechanism that permits libraries to give contact information to collection agencies.

However, an alternate argument can be made that the surveillance tape by its very nature contains patron identification information and therefore should be considered a library record under the Privacy Act. If surveillance tapes were in fact library records, it would be a violation of the Privacy Act to release them without permission or court order.

It is also notable that there are repercussions for violating section 3 of the Privacy Act.

Section 4 of the Privacy Act, MCL 397.604 states:

A library or an agent or employee of a library that violates section 3 shall be liable to the person identified in a record that is improperly released or disclosed. The person identified may bring a civil action for actual damages or \$250, whichever is greater; reasonable attorney fees; and the costs of bringing the action.

So, where does this leave us? The conservative action would be to treat the surveillance tapes as library records and require permission or court order for their disclosure. This course of action insulates the library from potential liability from patron suit and reduces the chance that the evidence contained on the tape would be inadmissible in court because it was wrongfully obtained. Again, this would be the most conservative course, and the issue of whether a surveillance tape is in fact a "library record" is not entirely clear.

Although it does not have any direct bearing on this issue, it is notable that the attorney general of Wisconsin answered this question in an informal opinion and concluded that surveillance tapes were in fact "library records" and as such had to be kept confidential. The Wisconsin situation provides some indirect and limited support to the notion that surveillance tapes may be considered as library records in Michigan.

In any case, the library should have written policies in place that dictate how information will be disclosed or kept confidential in accordance with the Michigan Library Privacy Act. It would be a good idea for a library board to consult its legal counsel in creating these types of policies.

Finally, the Library of Michigan lacks authority to give legal advice to any person or agency. The Library of Michigan simply furnishes informational and comment services. The discussion above is intended as an informational service only.

If you have questions or comments regarding this article, please feel free to contact Lance M. Werner, library law specialist at the Library of Michigan, at (517) 373-1299 or wernerl@michigan.gov.