

STATE EMPLOYEE SERVICES NEWSLETTER  
JUNE 2011



ASK US ANYTHING!



Library of Michigan Services to State Government  
Visit [michigan.gov/lmtimelytopics](http://michigan.gov/lmtimelytopics) for this and previous issues!

**All You Need To Do Is Call 3-1300!**

“What is the population of my county?” “Where can I get the newspaper article on my appearance in Marquette?” “How do other states handle business tax incentives?” “How can I get a copy of Public Act 162 of 1985?” These are just a few examples of the types of research assistance available from the Library of Michigan.

The Library of Michigan has a team of librarians available to you for research, obtaining materials, and training. We pride ourselves on objectivity, confidentiality, nonpartisanship, and timeliness. Contact information is located at the bottom of this page.

In addition to our staff, you should know about our stuff! The Library of Michigan has an archive of newspapers from across the state and current subscriptions to over 40 different titles. We have publications from every department of the State of Michigan and the US government in our documents collections. Our historical collections may be of interest to your constituents studying or writing about Michigan history.

**Law Library Services**

The State Law Library provides nonpartisan, confidential research services for all branches of Michigan state government. Responses can be by phone, fax or email, usually within 24 hours. You can also learn more on the Web at [www.mi.gov/lawlibrary](http://www.mi.gov/lawlibrary).



**A Library on your Desktop at <http://mel.org>!**

Do you read the *New York Times* every day? Do you need a recent article from *the Journal of Health Care Law and Policy*? How about the latest research on tax structure? Would you like automatic alerts to the latest on policy issues appearing in journals? The Michigan eLibrary (MeL) brings all of these onto your desktop in full-text. Over 40 databases with articles from magazines, journals, and newspapers are available to all residents of the state of Michigan through <http://mel.org>.

Included in MeL is MeLCat, a statewide catalog of over 45 million items, including books, audio books, and videos, in over 400 Michigan libraries. A future enhancement in the works is the ability to order journal and magazine articles through MeLCat for delivery straight to your desktop. Although the Library of Michigan is not currently participating, MeLCat is available to cardholders from any MeLCat-member library. To check to see if your local library is a participant, go to <http://elibrary.mel.org/screens/participating.html>.

If you or your staff would like to learn more about how to get the most from MeL, our staff would be delighted to provide training. Please contact us to arrange a session at the Library or at your site.

Keep in mind that everything MeL can do for you, it can do for your constituents. If you would like



Call us for all your information needs!  
373-1300: Still answered by a real person!  
Phone: 3-1300 Fax: 3-3381 Law: 3-0630 Email: [librarian@michigan.gov](mailto:librarian@michigan.gov)  
Phone Hours: Mon – Fri 8 - 5; Building Hours: Mon – Fri 10 - 5

an article about MeL for your constituent newsletter or a speaker to talk to your staff or organization, please contact our MeL staff, Deb Biggs Thomas ( 517-373-4466, [biggsthomasd@michigan.gov](mailto:biggsthomasd@michigan.gov) ) or Randy Riley (517-373-5860, [rileyr1@michigan.gov](mailto:rileyr1@michigan.gov) ).

### ***Research Training and Tours Offered!***

In addition to MeL, the Legislative Team also offers training in the use of other Library of Michigan resources – your place or ours! We can schedule tours of the Library and provide hands-on training for MeL and other online resources. To schedule call 3-1300.

### ***Library Cards***

Getting a library card at the Library of Michigan is easy. We can send an application to your office via ID mail. All you need to do is fill in the form and mail it back.

### ***Interlibrary Loan Services***

If the Library of Michigan doesn't have the material you need, we offer an easy way for you to borrow from other libraries. Through our Interlibrary Loan office (ILL) we are able to get materials and articles on any subject from libraries all over the world and deliver them to your office. Just ask!

### ***Fun Facts... ... about the Library of Michigan!!***



The Library of Michigan pre-dates statehood! It has been serving Michigan state government and citizens since 1828.

The Polaris Ring, the sculpture in front of the Michigan Library and Historical Center (MLHC), is positioned in such a way that a viewer who stands behind the sculpture's center stone and looks between the two tallest columns will see Polaris, the North Star.

The white pine tree centered in the MLHC rotunda was moved here from Novi. It was nearly 50 years old at the time, and was 45 feet tall. Ironically, it was planted as a seedling in Novi after being purchased from a Lansing area nursery.

In 1891 Harriet Tenney stepped down as State Librarian, having served 22 years in the position. Her successor was Margaret Custer Calhoun. If the name Custer sounds familiar, it should. Margaret was General George Custer's sister.

### ***Web Resource Spotlight***

Be sure to familiarize yourself with our Library Services to State Government Web page:  
[michigan.gov/stateemployeeelibraryservices](http://michigan.gov/stateemployeeelibraryservices)

On this page you'll find:

- ★ An overview of our services and collections
- ★ Links to electronic resources accessible from your desktop
- ★ Forms for submitting research requests
- ★ Forms for requesting materials
- ★ Information about the Law Library, and more.



**Please take a look and bookmark it!**