

# Access

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## AncestryPlus Latest Addition to AccessMichigan

*By Martha McKee, Interim Public Information Officer*

AncestryPlus, a genealogy site for the layman, was added to the AccessMichigan list of databases on October 1, 2001. Genealogy is said to be the fastest increasing hobby in the United States and this product will help library patrons satisfy their genealogical inquiries.

“Genealogy was the most requested topic for AccessMichigan,” said Becky Cawley, Statewide Database Coordinator, “AncestryPlus is an excellent source for both new enthusiasts and more sophisticated researchers.”

AncestryPlus is a new genealogy research product that provides instant access to more than 1.2 billion names, more than 3,000 databases, primary source documents and images, and a variety of genealogical research features. New databases are added daily.

The database also includes digital images of the census records from the U.S. Federal Census from 1790 to 1920, Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, American Genealogical Biographic Index, Social Security Death Index, Civil War Research Database, Slave Narratives and many more indexes and lists. The database provides enough material to satisfy the needs of the most interested researcher. It also gives enough help to start the curious dabblers on their way with researching family history. A guided tour is located at <http://www.galegroup.com/AncestryPlus/tour.htm>.

The AccessMichigan subscription to AncestryPlus was funded in part through the Library of Michigan Foundation with funds from the Abrams Foundation. This database is for library use only. Libraries can access the new database via the Michigan Electronic Library (MEL) link to GALE resources or they can link directly to: [http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/lom\\_?yourlocationIDhere?db=APLUS](http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/lom_?yourlocationIDhere?db=APLUS).

## Other AccessMichigan Additions and Changes for 2001/2002

The Detroit Free Press and all of the associated newspapers originally owned by MediaStream and now owned by NewsBank were discontinued as part of AccessMichigan on September 30, 2001. This was due to a proposed increase in price of more than 700%.

There will be, however, three newspapers available through InfoTrac. The New York Times will be continued with a rolling file of the most recent 365 days. In addition, the Detroit News and The Grand Rapids Press have been added and are available through AccessMichigan at this time.

If a library is interested in subscribing to The Detroit Free Press, that institution may contact the Michigan Library Consortium (MLC), its Library Cooperative or a NewsBank sales representative for discount pricing.



# Mi-Lib-Tech:

## Plugging into the Future for Michigan's Libraries

By Carol McAllister, Librarian Trainer,  
Library Development Division

I recently had the opportunity to attend an event sponsored by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and hear a speech by B. Joseph Pine, the co-author of *The Experience Economy: Work is Theatre and Every Business a Stage*. This is a provocative book in which Pine shows that the U.S. is entering a new phase of economic revolution known as the "experience economy" where consumers desire experiences over goods and services. He contends that successful organizations should evolve to provide more experiences and transformations for their customer.

As I thought about this in relation to libraries, I realized that we have been in the experience and transformation business for a long time! Our stock in trade has been providing resources that provide education, experience and transformation. In addition, when you consider that libraries flourish despite the "competition" of bookstores and the Internet, there must be something special that brings people to our doors. Of course they come for various reasons: they need information, entertainment or education, they need to use our unique resources or they come because we are accessible. They also come because using a library is an experience! The experience of using a library can include feelings of community and personal worth, good memories, and a wholesome sense of doing something positive.

And libraries all over the state are building in an experience as we add "community living room" amenities to our libraries: coffee shops, personalized information, and bright, inviting children's rooms. If Mr. Pine is correct, libraries will do very well in the upcoming experience economy!

Christie

The Library of Michigan will revolutionize technology training in Michigan's public libraries this fall. A two-year program for public library staff starts this November, funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Partnering with Michigan Virtual University, this program will offer free technology training regardless of your location. Traditional face-to-face training opportunities, as well as the use of videoconferencing and web-based training, will be used to reach the greatest potential audience.

"Our use of web-based training will make learning more widely available than could have been done via only traditional means," said State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau.

NETg (<http://www.netg.com>) is the cornerstone of the web-based training and will include training on Microsoft applications, networking, and website security. In addition, the Library of Michigan will be working with Michigan Virtual University to train online instructors for on-going web-based courses for patrons and staff.

"The University of Illinois at the Champaign-Urbana, Chicago, and Springfield campuses are using this method for students, faculty and staff with great success," said Library Development Division director Sheryl Mase. "The beauty of this system is that staff members can learn at their own pace, in a time period that works best for them and for their library."

Beginning this fall, all public library staff members will have access to the NETg courses. Traditional face-to-face and videoconferencing training will begin in the new year. For an example of a typical course on NETg go to the website

<http://www.netg.com/catalog/detail/72041.htm>.

Previous grants from the Gates Foundation awarded in Michigan provided training to 1,300 library staff members in over 330 libraries. The Foundation also awarded 1,361 Gates Library Computers and 201 Windows NT Servers to public libraries; and installed 10 Gates Library Computer Training Labs.

Additional information on the grant project will be mailed to public libraries in early November. Please contact Carol McAllister at 517-373-4836 or [cmcallis@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:cmcallis@libraryofmichigan.org) for more information.

# Foundation Luncheon Serves Up a Duck Named Petite Rouge

By Sarah D. Watkins, Executive Director, Library of Michigan Foundation

Friday, September 7, 2001, the day of the Library of Michigan Foundation's second annual luncheon, was a rare and magical day—everything just clicked. Mike Artell, author of *Petite Rouge—A Cajun Red Riding Hood*, was scheduled as our keynote speaker. We truly did not know what to expect from Mike. We knew that the American Booksellers' Association had named his recent book one of the Top Ten Children's Books for 2001. And, we knew that Mike had written and illustrated more than 35 books for children, parents and teachers, and that many of these books had won awards. Still, we did not know what kind of speaker Mike would be as we went into the annual luncheon hoping that he would do an acceptable job. Well, we set our expectations far too low because Mike Artell wasn't acceptable or okay, or good or even great—he was fantastic, phenomenal and extraordinary!

Mike's recitation of *Petite Rouge* with all the wonderful patois in place was irresistible. But, there was more. He shared. He made us laugh. He touched our hearts. He made us think. He motivated us. And, he reminded us that we are all important and valuable.

The purpose of the annual luncheon is to bring donors, grant recipients, friends, librarians and educators together, to get to know each other a bit better. On September 9, I received this note from Violet Spencer of Walled Lake Public Library.

*"I have been asked to write you and tell you how much we enjoyed the workshop, ... the gardening one. It was most informative and delightful. Also, Mike Artell was wonderful, as was the lunch. All in all we found the day better than better. We wish to thank you for all your time and effort in planning and executing the day. You have found a winning formula; don't mess with it.*

*Sincerely, Gloria Raddant, Violet Spencer and Donna Rickabaugh (Librarian)."*

Gloria, Violet and Donna, we agree! We've officially claimed the day a big success.

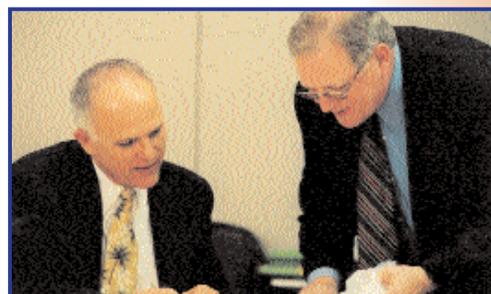
Eric Stinson, Head Gardener at Cooley Gardens in Lansing and a Master Gardener, provided the gardening workshop on *Four Seasons of Gardening*. Eric's no-nonsense style of gardening and tips such as "if it won't grow, get rid of it" and "growing a redbud is as easy as falling out of bed" kept everyone captivated and laughing. He provided a photographic record of the challenges he met at Cooley Gardens when he first accepted his position there more than 15 years ago. The current garden is a living testament to his skill, unique sense of beauty, and willingness to keep growing and changing, striving to meet an extraordinary level of excellence.

Patrick Johnson, Regional Vice President with Dreyfus Funds, captivated his audience by taking them on a journey through time. He took us back to the market crash of 1934 and offered a history lesson in the stock market, providing insight into its highs, lows, and everything in between. His reflections on *Looking Ahead When the Market Is Behind* offered practical advice and hope for the future, reminding us that if one has patience "good things come to he (or she) who waits."

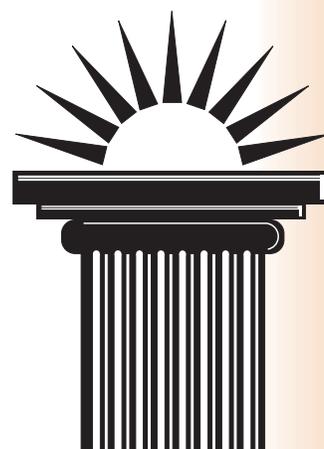
In addition to all the fun and festivities, the Foundation awarded its 2001 Read Indeed! grants. This year, four awards were made. Project Literacy, Inc. of Muskegon received \$5,084; LVA-Capital Area Literacy Coalition, Lansing received \$3,750; Montcalm Adult Reading Council, Greenville; received \$7,500; and Ogemaw County Literacy Council, West Branch received \$2,500. All four of this year's awards are Challenge Grants. This means that the recipients have 18 months to meet the dollar-for-dollar match requirement. Congratulations to our award winners!



Mike Artell, author of *Petite Rouge—A Cajun Red Riding Hood*



Mike Artell and Larry Lipton at the book signing



LIBRARY OF  
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FOUNDATION

# "Ask The AlphaGeek" . . .

By Paul Groll, Director, Network and Information Services

Dear AlphaGeek,

*Our site is Far Away, and we're trying to explore all of our options for Internet service.*

*We're looking into a satellite dish connection. What are some of the issues we should think about as we talk with various vendors?*

*Signed,  
Sick of This Last-Mile Business.*

Dear Last Mile,

One of the thorniest issues in getting a fast Internet connection is that pesky last-mile-engineering, or LME in geekSpeak. This term comes from the fact that installing and configuring the last mile to your local site can be one of the most expensive and difficult aspects of setting up a connection. Realize, too, that "last-mile" can, in the Real World, range from a few hundred feet to dozens of miles.

You are not the first to ask me about the various satellite dish solutions. If this were an option for me, there are questions I would ask the vendors right up front and some issues I'd tackle in advance. Below are questions you need to ask your vendors and the reasons why you need to ask them. Many of these same questions can be used when checking dedicated connections.

- How does the system talk to the server or the network? Does the system need a USB connection? Are there other alternatives?

*Reason: Windows NT does not support USB, so if your network relies on an NT server, you'll need to upgrade the server or use another connection option.*

[Note: USB stands for "universal serial bus," one of a number of current technologies for connecting external devices to computers. Windows 98/ME/2000/XP support this technology, as does Macintosh. Windows 95 and Windows NT do not.]

- Will we get a static IP address, or will it change dynamically? If dynamic, how long is the lease? Can the vendor make it really long, like a year, or several months?

*Reason: Much of the database access on the web is authenticated by IP address. If your site has a dynamic address, it may be more difficult to keep your various authentications up to date. With a static address, the initial authentication setup can sometimes remain intact for years. See longer note below on static versus dynamic access.*

- How many PC systems can we run on the network and still have all traffic go out through the dish? Is there a limit? What is it? Why?

*Reason: Some vendors may offer a "bargain" price, but the fine print reveals that the connection will support only a single PC. Or two. Or three. Service to support more systems may be available, but at a higher price. Be sure you are shopping for a service that will support all that you want it to do, and compare apples-to-apples among vendors.*

- Can we run an Internet server on the network? Web-server? Mail-server?

*Reason: Some packages are intended only for end-user type systems - users and consumers of the web resources, not providers. Such packages usually explicitly restrict or forbid traffic for an Internet server. Know what you are buying.*

- Will we get only one single IP address, or can we have more than one? Is there added cost? What is it?

*Reason: This is especially important if you intend to run a server - web-server, mail-server, a firewall or security server, whatever. In almost every case, you'd want the server to have a distinct IP address, different than network user systems. If the package in question supports only a single IP address, this will present a challenge.*

- If you can only get one IP address, then ask these questions of your library staff: Do we have any services, subscriptions, logins, etc., that cannot be IP translated or that will not work with a proxy address? Why? What alternatives can the vendors offer?

*Reason: Some software or data vendors may offer services that will connect only with a "routable" (non-translated) IP address. If all the systems on the connection must use translated IP addresses, this may cause some purchased services to fail. One of the vendors may have a fix for this. Find out detail about this before you purchase.*

- What kind of uptime numbers can we expect? Will the vendor warrant these numbers? How? What is the basis for these numbers? Are there other sites in my area, or in a comparable geographic area? Can the vendor present me with references of satisfied customers or other successful sites of similar size?

*Reason: A connection that is down a lot is not a useful connection. Ask for references from satisfied customer sites with situations similar to yours. If the vendor stands behind their uptime numbers, do they offer pro-rated refunds for downtime, credit against next month's bill, or what?*

- Are there contracts for specific periods, or are they month-to-month?

*Reason: If contracted, you need to be sure there is a simple path to termination with no penalties if you are not satisfied with the service. Remember, that one path to termination should be up to you, not the vendor—nor their attorney.*

- Will the vendor accept a contract drafted or edited by our legal counsel, or will they only proceed with a contract they provide?

*Reason: Where possible, work with the vendor with your contract, from your governing body. Don't be forced to accept a "standard" boilerplate contract from their legal staff, unless it is completely satisfactory to your legal counsel.*

- What about the venue for dealing with disagreements?

*Reason: Beware the venue for disputes. In the vendor's contract, it could be "courts of Virginia." You need to force this phrase to Michigan, and if possible, even to your own county for jurisdiction.*

*[Note: Static versus Dynamic]*

A "static" IP address is one that is permanently assigned to a specific node. It does not change in the routine course of operations. The alternative is a "dynamic" address, which may be assigned for only the current boot-up session. On the next reboot or restart, the same computer may be assigned a different IP address. This assigned address thus changes dynamically through time, and is not static. This type of address can be difficult to deal with in terms of registering with vendors for authentication purposes, as an address that works Monday may be someone else's by Wednesday!

The term during which a dynamic address is assigned to a node is called the "lease time." The above challenges with dynamic addresses can be much alleviated if the lease time is very long, weeks or months, for example. It's even possible to have a dynamic address with a permanent lease, thus, in all functional aspects, it behaves just like a static address.

With this last choice you get all the advantages of a static address, but if you ever need to change it or assign an employee a new one for any reason, you can do so without leaving your chair. With a static address, you'd have to come to the employee's desk and reprogram the machine by hand.]

# *New Names and Faces at the Library of Michigan*

Karrie Waarala joined the Library of Michigan staff as a Continuing Education Library Specialist in Library Development on September 26th. She is the former director of the Sturgis Public Library.

Waarala graduated from Western Michigan University with a B.B.A. in Accounting and a B.A. in English Literature. She received a Masters in Library and Information Science from Wayne State University and began her professional career as the director of the Mendon Township Library. Actually, she began her professional career at the age of 11, when she volunteered at the Milford Township Library. She progressed to page and has never looked back.

“When I attended the New Director’s Workshop at the Library of Michigan I knew that someday I would work here,” said Waarala, “For me, this is a dream come true.”

Avid readers of ACCESS will remember that Waarala competed in the National Poetry Slam in Seattle this summer.

Dragomir Cosanici joined the Library of Michigan staff as the Library Law Specialist in Library Development on September 26th. Cosanici graduated from Michigan State University with Honors in 1992 with a B.S. in Political Science. He received his Masters in Information Science from the University of Michigan in 1994 and his law degree from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1998.

His most recent position was teaching at the Hofstra University School of Law on Long Island. Before teaching he practiced law in Michigan and is licensed to practice in both our state and in the District of Columbia. He clerked for Judge Timothy G. Hicks in Muskegon and extols the beauty of our state with great eloquence.

“There are no better people to work for and with than librarians,” said Cosanici. “Nobody likes lawyers, but everybody loves librarians.”

Edwina Morgan joined the Library of Michigan staff as a new Librarian in Public Services on September 24th. Morgan is an Iowa native and a graduate of Wayne State University. She received her undergraduate degree in history from Michigan State University, so she is familiar with the Lansing area. Before coming to the Library of Michigan, Morgan worked for six years

in the Preservation Department at the University of Michigan’s Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library.

“It’s great to be working in public services,” said Morgan, “It’s the main reason I wanted to come here.”

Kim Szczepaniak began her position September 26, 2001, as Library Assistant in the Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Szczepaniak commutes from Lake Odessa and is looking forward to the challenges of working full-time. She is the Treasurer of the Sunfield Summer Athletic Association and enjoys a myriad of activities with her four children.

## *Promotions*

Sheryl Mase, who came to the Library of Michigan in February, 2001 as the Library Services and Technology Act/Universal Services Fund (LSTA/USF) Specialist has been promoted to the position of Library Development Division director. The position is a new one, coordinating statewide library development activities. The activities include continuing education, youth services, state aid, LSTA grant administration, USF, librarian certification and library statistics.

Tim Watters accepted the position of Cataloger for Special Collections in Technical Services. Watters previously cataloged regular materials. Congratulations, Sheryl and Tim!



*Karrie Waarala*



*Dragomir Cosanici*



*Kim Szczepaniak*

# We Thank Our Peer Reviewers

*By Sheryl Mase, Director of Library Development*

In August, seven teams of peer reviewers came together at the Library of Michigan to discuss Library Services and Technology Act grant proposals submitted in the competitive grant program for fiscal year 2002. Each of the 35 reviewers were assigned to a team and given 12 or 13 grant proposals to read and score on an individual basis. These individuals then came together with their assigned team members for a day of discussion on the merits of each proposal. The reviewers had lively discussions and learned a lot about grant writing in the process of reviewing the various applications. It was not necessary for them to come to a consensus on the scoring and in fact, they never knew the scores assigned by their teammates.

“This was a great experience,” said Hesperia Public Library director Liz Nordin, “Our team had a good cross-section of reviewers who brought a variety of perspectives to bear on each grant application we reviewed. I think the process worked very well.”

Teams were made up of individuals from various types of libraries, locations and backgrounds, all with one unified goal: to read and evaluate the LSTA applications and rate them based on merit, according to the score sheet published in this year’s grant handbook. The information and opinions gathered from these dedicated individuals was compiled and given to the state librarian for her consideration. Our gratitude is extended to these individuals who generously gave their time to this process.

## ***They were:***

William Baldrige, Grand Rapids Public Library

Harvey Brenneise, Michigan Public Health Institute

Sheila Bissonnette, Garfield Memorial Library

Eunice Borrelli, Capital Area District Library

Linda Williams Bowie, Lewis College of Business/Crockett Technical High School

Barbara Brewer, Mid-Peninsula Library Cooperative

Pamela Christensen, Peter White Public Library

Mary Cary Crawford, Escanaba Public Library

Phyllis Clark, Lapeer County Library

John Gleason, East Lansing Public Library

Barbara Glover, Eastern Michigan University Library

Mary Elizabeth Harper, Cass District Library

Judy Hauser, Oakland Schools

Bob Holley, Wayne State University

Mary Jo Koch, St. Clair County Library

Amy Knepp, Oscoda Public Library

Julie Lea, Chelsea District Library

Barbara Lewis, Livonia Civic Center Library

George Libbey, University of Detroit Mercy

Lin Light, Herrick District Library

Ceci Marlow, Rochester Hills Public Library

John Martin, Oak Park Public Library

Judi McNally, Fremont Area District Library

Lise Mitchell, Chippewa River District Library

Heidi Nagel, Hall-Fowler District Library

Kim Potter, Wixom Public Library

Gail Powers-Schaub, Council of Michigan Foundations

Dawn Pringle, Jordan Valley District Library

Jim Seidl, Woodlands Library Cooperative

Dave Simmons, White Pine Library Cooperative

Richard Schneider, Traverse Area District Library

Nancy Skowronski, Detroit Public Library

Sherrill Smith, Public Libraries of Saginaw

MaryAnne Thorndycraft, Orion Township Public Library

Melissa White, REMC 13

We are also appreciative of the time and effort given by the LSTA Advisory Council members. The Council members read all of the proposal abstracts, scoring each with a brief set of questions also published in the grant handbook. The 2002 LSTA grant awards have truly been reviewed by your peers.

# Library of Michigan Undergoes Transformation

By Martha McKee, Interim Public Information Officer

With the advent of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries, the Library of Michigan changed and rearranged some of its services to better serve its public and to gain greater cost efficiencies. These changes began October 1, 2001.

The Office of Human Resources, the Business Services Office, and the Public Information Office, now referred to as the Communications Office, moved to the departmental level. This means HAL will gain the expertise of the existing staff without the Library experiencing any loss of service. Greater cost efficiencies and collaborative efforts are also benefits gained by extending these services to cover the department as a whole.

Robin Allen, Mary Beth Garvey and Colleen Cannarile make up the department Human Resources Office.

Marnie Elden, the graphic designer of Library of Michigan publications and Cindy Krueger, web page coordinator moved into the new Communications Department. James Schultz, a Museum employee, joins them.

Three employees who previously worked in Business Services moved over to become part of the Library Development Division. Ed Willoughby, who oversees librarian certification and state aid, and Molly Dwyer and Beth Wetzl who work on library statistics can now be found on fifth floor north.

All these folks remain on the fifth floor and still serve you, the library public, in much the same way as before.

Dr. Anderson and Mark Hoffman, Director and Deputy Director of HAL respectively, moved into offices on the south side of the fifth floor.

The Library of Michigan Foundation offices moved to the second floor of the Library.



Dr. Anderson addresses History, Arts and Libraries staff at the first all-staff meeting

## MMLC – 2002 Model

By Roger Mendel, Director, Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

Traditionally, fall is the time of year when auto manufacturers roll out their new models. On October 1, 2001, Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative (MMLC) released its 2002 model, a new form of regional library service.

On that date, the MMLC officially became a multi-type cooperative. Earlier this year, after several years of discussion and meetings, the cooperative's *Plan of Service* was changed by a vote of the public library boards that belong to the cooperative. This summer, the Library of Michigan approved the *Plan*, which provides the opportunity for non-public libraries to join MMLC.

The addition of new members further solidifies the cooperative arrangements historically held with school, academic, and special libraries in the MMLC service area. With the loss of federal financial support for the Mideastern Michigan Region of Cooperation, this new structure allows those non-public libraries the opportunity to actively participate in the cooperative.

An annual \$150 membership fee entitles the new members to have representation for their type of library on the MMLC Board of Trustees, participate in the Cooperative Advisory Council, take advantage of book and audio-visual discount programs, participate in grant projects, receive the *Co-op Connection*, the MMLC newsletter and receive all other communications to members.

[Editor's note: MMLC becomes the second cooperative to give non-public libraries full membership status. Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative, under the leadership of Alida Geppert, was the first in 1997.]

# Sunday School Books

## Digitization Brings the Past to the Present

By Ann-Marie Saputo, Public Information Office Intern

Do you ever wonder what life was like for children and young men and women more than 100 years ago? The Michigan State University Library can give you a glimpse. Constantly on the edge of innovation, the MSU libraries digitized their entire collection of 19th Century Sunday school books from the Russel B. Nye Popular Culture Collection, for anyone to view via the Internet.

The online collection, found at <http://digital.lib.msu.edu/ssb/index.cfm>, includes two types of formats, page images (.jpg files) and text transcriptions (available in HTML and XML) of all the books. The books were scanned face-down without being unbound. This created the images on the website of brittle pages with fading ink that leave the viewer wondering whose fingers had touched these pages a hundred years ago. The text transcriptions of the books were meticulously typed twice by undergraduate students and were proofread by a file comparison program.

There are 170 books in the digitized collection, 50 of them loaned by the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University. A Library of Congress/Ameritech National Digital Library Award funded the project. The collection appears on the Library of Congress web site as well.

Some may question why a public institution would take an interest in digitizing a collection of books with such religious roots. Ruth Ann Jones, digital project coordinator at the Digital Sources Center, argues that these books have much historical significance.

She explains, "In the mid-18th century there was a time known as The Great Awakening, where the nation developed a great interest in religion. These books were a part of pop culture and many important historical figures, such as Abraham Lincoln, grew up reading this form of literature." She continues, "Consequently, these books played a part in shaping his morals and beliefs, thus influencing decisions he made for our nation. Public libraries were scarce during this time, and many children in rural areas had no access to any other reading material besides what the church had to offer."

Jones adds that although these books contain theological content, the companies that published them were multi-denominational. The goal of many of the books was focused on building moral character rather than enforcing religious beliefs. "The real intent [of these books] was character building," says Jones.

There are many categories of books to view. These range from advice books and moral tales, giving straightforward and honest advice, to books about the evils of alcohol and tobacco. Jones also points out that many of the moral issues we deal with today and see as modern were in fact being addressed more than 100 years ago. She uses the books in the category Animals, Natural History as an example. Some of these books deal with the issue of treating animals ethically, an idea that many feel is revolutionary to the 20th century, but in fact is seeded in religious beliefs.

Other categories include *death, dying, illness, immigrants, slavery, African-American, Native Americans, and child labor, orphans, poverty.*

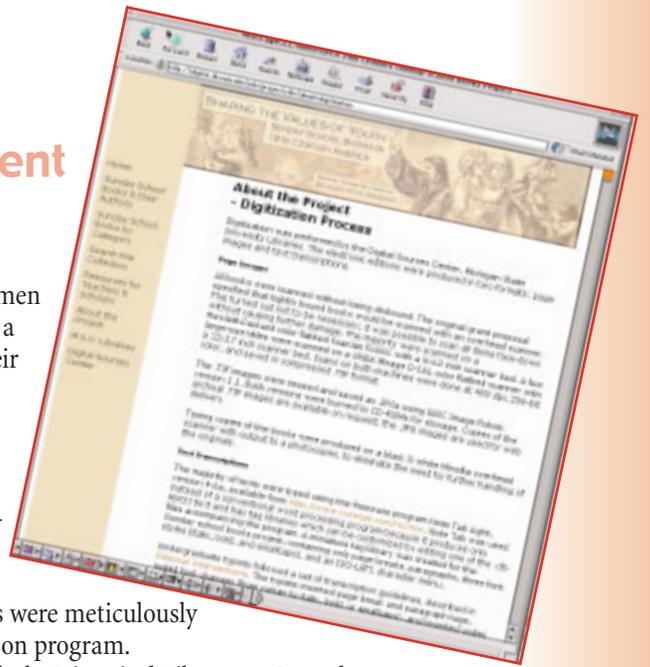
Jones' advice to other libraries thinking about digitization? Educate yourself about the process before jumping in. Workshops are held through the Michigan Library Association (MLA) to teach library personnel more about digitization. More information can be found at the MLA website: <http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/Workshops/index.html>

The digitization process includes actual photos of each page, including many charming illustrations, and transcriptions of the text. For example, in *Winnie and Walter*, published in 1861 by Tarbox of Boston, you can see the sweet inscription Johnnie, from Mother, Dec. 25, 1862. I'm sure Mother hoped that the instructive tales of Winnie and Walter, two children living outside Boston, would help her own child, Johnnie, become a better person.

Project directors were Peter Berg, Head, Special Collections Division, and Michael Seadle, head, Digital Sources Center, both of Michigan State University Libraries. Project Manager was Ruth Ann Jones, Digital Projects Coordinator, Digital Sources Center, Michigan State University Libraries. You can contact Jones at (517) 432-3977 or [jonesr@msu.edu](mailto:jonesr@msu.edu).

Dr. Stephen Rachman, Department of English, Michigan State University wrote an introductory essay, historical commentary and biographical note on each author. The biography notes contain information about each author as available, although information about some authors has been lost.

This online collection is charming and precious, giving a peek into the nation's everyday life over 100 years ago. They give us cause to wonder who these books once belonged to and what their lives were like.



# ATLAS Implementation Planning Moves Into Committees

By Becky Cawley, Statewide Database Resource Administrator

The Action Team for Library Advancement Statewide (ATLAS) implementation-planning process is moving forward with the creation of committees charged to work on plans for each of the ATLAS focus areas. The ATLAS committees will form the backbone of the implementation planning process. Each committee will receive a charge and a deadline or timeline for completion of their work. The committee structure provides for an open process and communication with librarians across the state.

The goal of ATLAS is to provide a statewide resource sharing plan that meets the unique environment in Michigan and encourages the greatest participation by the greatest number of libraries. If the plan is to succeed, support must come from librarians from all types of libraries and in all parts of the state. By incorporating input from multi-type libraries from many regions of the state, the system design will be stronger and more closely meet the needs of Michigan libraries.

Committees were formed in September, drawn from volunteers. They were selected to combine expertise with multi-type and geographic representation. The first meeting of the committees was held on September 28. All committees have started their work.

## *Designing the ATLAS system*

There will be four main components to the system: 1) a portal or gateway, 2) interlibrary loan and resource sharing, 3) a courier delivery service, and 4) a digitization program. Promotion, training, and planning for future development will be important additions to the four main system components.

For a list of committee members and to follow committee activities see <http://www.accessmichigan.lib.mi.us/atlas/committees.htm>.

## **Committee Chairs, Timelines, and Charges**

### **The Portal Committee**

Committee Chair: Becky Cawley  
Planning Completed: January 1, 2002  
Implementation Date: July 1, 2002  
Committee Charge: The Portal Committee will develop a plan for every Michigan resident to have easy-to-use, electronic access to the state's libraries, free Internet resources, and commercially licensed databases and services.

### **Digitization Committee**

Committee Chair: Michael Seadle  
Planning Completed: January 1, 2002  
Implementation Date: October 1, 2002  
Committee Charge: The Digitization Committee will survey the state to determine the level of digitization activity and will identify significant projects currently underway. The committee will recommend a path for creating the infrastructure necessary to ensure an integrated digital environment within Michigan.

### **Resource Sharing Network Committee**

Committee Chairs: Colleen Hyslop and Louise Bugg  
Planning Completed: February 1, 2002  
Implementation Date: January 1, 2003  
Committee Charge: The Resource Sharing Network Committee will survey the current marketplace and recommend the best method for implementing an ILL and resource-sharing network. The recommendation should encompass a solution that can be delivered in the near-term (6-12 months), as well as a long-term solution that will meet the needs of the system as it grows and matures.

### **ILL Policies Committee**

Committee Chair: Sheryl VanderWagen  
Planning Completed: November 1, 2001  
Implementation Date: July 1, 2002  
Committee Charge: The committee will develop a set of policies and procedures for the libraries that will be sharing books and other materials through the statewide resource sharing network.

### **Courier Delivery Committee**

Committee Chair: Dan Siebersma  
Planning Completed: January 1, 2002  
Implementation Date: July 1, 2002  
Committee Charge: The committee will develop a statewide solution to fast, efficient delivery of returnable library materials. The plan will build on, but not necessarily duplicate, existing delivery services in library cooperatives, REMCs and other resource sharing groups.

### **Promotion Committee**

Committee Chair: Phyllis Jose  
Planning Completed: Ongoing  
Implementation Date: October 1, 2001  
Committee Charge: The Promotion Committee will heighten awareness of ATLAS among Michigan librarians and will develop a long-range plan, which will ensure that Michigan librarians become more knowledgeable about the statewide resource sharing network and how to use it.

### **Training Committee**

Committee Chair: Kathy Cadwallader  
Planning Completed: June 1, 2002  
Implementation Date: July 1, 2002  
Committee Charge: The Training Committee will develop a training plan for all components of the statewide resource sharing network.

### **Advanced Projects Committee**

Committee Chair: George Libbey  
Planning Completed: December 31, 2002  
Implementation Date: The Future  
Committee Charge: The Advanced Projects Committee will provide input about follow-up projects and enhancements to the resource-sharing network. Such projects may include print-on-demand, expansion to other states or regions, etc.



<http://libraryofmichigan.org/services/youth.html>

*By Kristine Tardiff, Youth Services Specialist*

The Library of Michigan's web site is sporting a new page devoted to Youth Services. Here you will find an extensive annotated list of websites of interest to anyone serving youth in public or school libraries. The links include information on:

- [Award Winning Books and Notables](#)
- [Internet and Children](#)
- [Collection Development](#)
- [Journals and Reviews](#)
- [Continuing and Distance Education](#)
- [Lesson Plans and Educational Resources](#)
- [Discussion Lists](#)
- [State, Regional and Local Library and Education Agencies](#)
- [Early Childhood and Development](#)
- [Grants and Funding](#)
- [Programming](#)
- [Highlighted Libraries and Programs](#)
- [Reading and Literacy](#)
- [Important Dates](#)
- [School Library Media Center Resources](#)
- [School Library Media Endorsements](#)

There is also a regular Announcements section where you will find information on:

- [Library of Michigan projects and services concerning youth services](#)
- [Summer Reading Program](#)
- [Library of Michigan workshops of interest to youth services staff](#)
- [Meeting updates](#)

A third section is the beginning of a new database, *Youth and Family Performers*. The database will be searchable by type of program, suitable age range, location of performer, cost and so forth. Location, cost and references will also be included. The database is for library staff, educators and parents who are searching for children's, teen and family programs.

## ***Library of Michigan Expands Videoconferencing Capability***

*By Carol McAllister, Librarian Trainer, Library Development Division*

The Library of Michigan is installing two portable videoconferencing units, one at the Library of Michigan and one at the Peter White Public Library in Marquette. This technology will provide TV-quality video for the most demanding of video communications needs. The units were purchased from Innovative Communications, Inc. (ICI) of Saginaw, Michigan.

"The Library of Michigan wants to expand and increase the ease of use of videoconferencing in Michigan," said State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau. "This is our first step toward that goal."

The Library of Michigan and Peter White Public Library will have the capability to broadcast and receive video and data for meetings, training programs and presentations. Each site will be able to connect up to three other sites at 384 kbps or two other sites at 512 kbps. The installation is also a step, with improved technology, to embedded streaming capabilities. These capabilities will let us capture and send meetings, presentations, or broadcasts to anyone equipped with a Web browser.

Using the portable videoconferencing equipment will enhance and increase productivity, decrease travel expenses and reduce costs, and increase the ease of communication. Be on the lookout for future videoconference meetings, presentation and training opportunities from the Library of Michigan. If you have further questions, please contact Carol McAllister at [cmcallis@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:cmcallis@libraryofmichigan.org) or (517) 373-4836.

# New Michigan Authors & Illustrators Database



By Karren Reish, Librarian, Public Services Division and Coordinator for the Michigan Center for the Book

The Library of Michigan and the Michigan Center for the Book (MCFB) are collaborating with the Michigan Association of Media in Education (MAME) to produce an online database of Michigan Authors and Illustrators. MAME is editing a 3rd edition in print form of Michigan Authors. This new edition updates the second edition with material on new authors through 2002. Included are authors and illustrators born in or living in Michigan and works set in Michigan.

The Library of Michigan is creating an online database of the same information, searchable by specific entries and by keyword. Updates will be made online on the database, rather than publishing a 4th edition in print form.

The release date for the database is scheduled for spring 2002. If you have questions, please contact Karren Reish at (517) 373-3891 or at [kreish@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:kreish@libraryofmichigan.org).

## Library of Michigan takes to the road...with friends

Where can you meet a snake named CIPA, a Swedish psychic named Miss Lena, and a Library of Michigan groupie who swears "they're putting in a transporter at the State Library"?? Why, on the Road with the Library of Michigan and Friends, of course!

Several folks from the Library of Michigan and friends from libraries, the Michigan Library Association, Michigan Library Cooperatives, and Michigan Library Consortium took a full length television line-up on the road in October. They visited the following places: Grand Rapids on October 15, Marquette on October 17, Petoskey on October 18, and if it was October 19th, the show must have been in Cadillac. The show had to go on and on it went to Lansing (October 22), Livonia (October 23) and Frankenmuth (October 24).

During **Live with Regis and Christie Lee**, the audience learned about changes in the databases offered through AccessMichigan, about Library Cooperatives, and about ATLAS. The audience held its collective breath as Sheryl Mase became a USF **Survivor**, facing off CIPA the snake and living to tell the story. Contestants on **Who Wants to be a Millionaire** answered questions (sometimes successfully, sometimes not so successfully) about PLFIG (that's the

## Cats May Be Out, But Parakeets Are Ridin' High

By Martha McKee, Interim Public Information Officer

Some of you may have followed the saga of Madeline, the cat who lived at the Loutit District Library in Grand Haven. Madeline caused allergic reactions in some patrons, so she packed her bags and went to live (happily) with a library employee.

But parakeets still rule in two Michigan libraries. In Alden, at the Helena Township Public Library, "Dickens" pursues her favorite hobby, chasing the computer mouse. For a lovely photo of Dickens with her fellow-workers, go to <http://www.aldenlib.org/Staff.htm>

At the Delton District Library, Romeo is the official library greeter. Library director Jane Leavitt says Romeo is well-named. "He's a lover. It gives our patrons a lift to be warmly greeted by such a sweet little bird." Catch a glimpse of Romeo at <http://cwic1.jackson.lib.mi.us/delton/staff.htm>

Feline lovers, take comfort in the fact that "Andrew Carnegie," a black, four-month-old kitty has taken up residency at the Carnegie Branch of Jackson District Library.



Continued on page 14

Public Library Funding Initiative Group), PRISM (which stands for Promoting Reading and Information Service in Michigan), HAL (the newly formed Department of History, Arts and Libraries), and MAME (Michigan Association of Media in Education). These not-so-normally scheduled programs were interrupted with News Flashes about a new database named AncestryPlus being added to AccessMichigan and the dispelling of a rumor about transporters at the Library of Michigan (which materialized as portable videoconferencing equipment at the Library of Michigan and the Peter White Library in Marquette). The **Tech Chef** made a guest appearance bringing with him his world famous Rack of RAM and Fiche and Chips. He promised to share recipes for these delightful dishes on his next program.

The list of stars included Christie Brandau, State Librarian as well as Jo Budler, Becky Cawley, Molly Dwyer, Paul Groll, Mike Spuhler, Stephen Kirshener, Elaine Didier, Randy Dykhuis, Eileen Palmer, Michael Deller, Saul Andursky, Dave Simmons, Naomi Krefmann Tom Genson, Rex Miller, Roger Mendel, and Suzanne Dees. There was active audience participation with signs (urging the audience to applaud, boo, hiss, and laugh) as well as audience participants who played “Who Wants to be a Millionaire?”

*And what did the attendees think of all these “goings on the road”?*

**From Cadillac:**

“Wonderful presentation. You outdid yourselves.”

“I really enjoyed the morning presentation! This was one of the best classes I’ve been to. I really like having the classes up north.”

**From Grand Rapids:**

“Very informative and entertaining. This was a great outreach program and appreciated.”

“Great way to present information!”

“Fun & informational!”

**From Marquette:**

“Very lively – great way to present info. Thank you for coming to the U.P.”

(The Road Show company says, “We loved the trip. How nice to have the beautiful fall show of leaves to enjoy!”)

“Very informative but presented in a lively format! No snoozing at this one!”

**From Petoskey:**

“On the Road’ was fantastic! What a great way to present information that will be remembered!”

“Great class – lots of knowledge and lots of fun! Didn’t know librarians were such hams!!”

**And finally:**

“I hope that the Swedish psychic will continue her appearances at future workshops.”

You can never tell where she may appear, especially now that they have those portable videoconferencing devices in Lansing and Marquette.



*Roger Mendel, Christie (Lee) Brandau and Michael Deller chat on Live with Regis and Christie Lee.*



*The crowd in Cadillac watches the Road Show performance intently.*



*Paul Groll as the Tech Chef*



*Randy Dykhuis, Tom Genson, Christie Pearson Brandau, Naomi Krefman, Saul Amdursky, and Roger Mendel enjoy themselves on the Road Show*



*Sheryl Mase is a USAF Survivor*



*Stephen Kershner, Elaine Didier, Kevin King and Saul Amdursky.*

## Cassopolis

Michigan Gateway Community Foundation (MGCF) just approved the newest endowment fund in their family. The Cass District Library Endowment Fund was established for the purpose of supporting the mission of the library.

“Contributions to the fund will never be spent, only the earnings from the fund. One hundred years from now, your contribution will still be there, joined by many others, to support the Cass District Library,” said library director Mary E. Harper.

MGCF serves south Berrien and Cass counties. For information on establishing an endowment fund, or contributing to an existing fund, contact Robert N. Habicht at Michigan Gateway Community Foundation, PO Box 351, Buchanan, MI 49107 or call 616-695-3521.



## Saginaw

Hundreds of library users donated food during the library’s Food for Fines/Fine Amnesty Week, September 10-15. The library collected 35 cardboard boxes of food that were donated to local agencies serving the poor. Many library users had no fines, but simply donated the food to help the hungry.

“We were overwhelmed with the generosity of our library users,” said Marcia A. Warner, library director. “They were delighted to be able to help out those in need.”

**If you have a news item you would like to contribute, please contact Jo Budler at 517-373-5507 or email: [Jbudler@libraryofmichigan.org](mailto:Jbudler@libraryofmichigan.org).**



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Access (ISSN 1051-0818) publishes information about the Library of Michigan and its activities plus other materials of interest to the Michigan library community. Please direct comments or questions to:

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