

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative On-line Newsletter

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[July 2008](#)

[At CADL:](#) CADL is going to the voters on August 5 to get approval for upgrading the thirteen library facilities, check out the details, Good Luck to Sue and her board and staff.

Time at the Library is Time Well Spent!

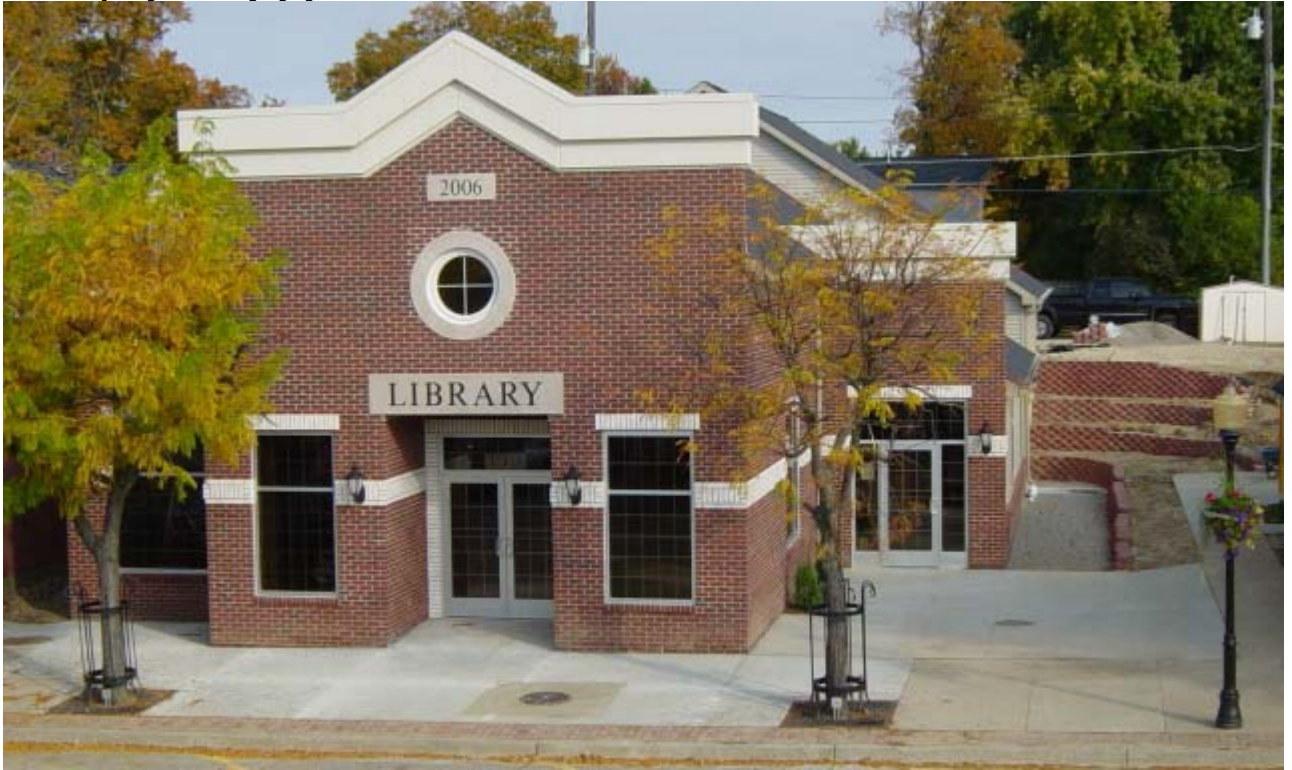


[At Bay County Library System:](#) After a long spell without a director the Bay County Library System welcomed Tom Birch as Director of the library on July 21. Tom is a returning staff member to Bay, where prior to his employment at the Public Libraries of Saginaw, Tom was the manager of the Bay City Branch of BCLS. Welcome to Tom from the MMLC libraries.

[At Genesee District Library:](#) [The Digital Library is NOW OPEN!](#) Try out the new Digital Library at the GDL. You can find downloadable eBooks, Audio Books, Music, and Videos here!

[At Vernon District Library:](#) The library moved into their new building in June. Stop in and see the new digs.

We hope you enjoy your visit!



Calendar of events and meetings.

August 5, 2008 9:30 a.m. MMLC Advisory Council meeting, Kettering University.

September 11, 2008 4:30 p.m. MMLC Board Meeting. MMLC Offices.

October 22-24, 2008 MLA Annual Conference: Kalamazoo Conference Center.

April 23-May 1, 2009 Rural Libraries Conference, Grand Traverse Resort

State Activities:

Preferred Futures Conference: The Cooperative Directors Association is spearheading the planning for a futures conference. On July 25 library leaders representing all types of libraries will be meeting to plan a conference similar to the Preferred Futures Conference held in 1999. Outcomes from that conference include MeLCat and MeLDelivery. In light of the discussions held earlier this year regarding a new way to fund libraries and cooperatives the directors, in concert with cooperative board trustees discussed the need for such a conference which could have outcomes that would set the course of state funding and library services into the future.

Library news from the national perspective:

Summer programs @ your library

Libraries across the country are using the “@ your library”



brand to promote summer programming. In order to help patrons escape the summer heat and the increasing cost of movie tickets, Perry (Okla.) Carnegie Library will host "Cool off with summer movies @ your library." The Bossier (La.) Central Library (right) partnered with its local game shop to sponsor "Gaming @ your library."...

[New PLA Tech Notes](#)

PLA has published new titles in its *Tech Notes* series, which provides technical information on issues affecting public libraries using contemporary technology. The [newest titles](#), written by technology consultant and writer Richard W. Boss, are on wireless LANs, automated storage and retrieval, open source ILS systems, and Unicode....

[World's oldest Bible goes online](#)

More than 1,600 years after it was written in Greek, one of the oldest copies of the Bible will become globally accessible online for the first time on July 24. High-resolution images from the Codex Sinaiticus, which contains the oldest complete New Testament, as well as notes on the work made over centuries, will appear on the Codex Sinaiticus Project [website](#) as a first step towards publishing the entire manuscript by next July....

Reuters, July 21



[Facebook gets a facelift](#)

Facebook rolled out a major redesign of its social networking site late July 20 featuring a cleaner interface that links feed technology with user forums. Company officials said the updated site will give users more control and ownership over their profiles. The new version, now in limited use, will be rolled out gradually to Facebook's 80 million users. The [new look](#) is all about the Wall, the blank space on a profile page that users can fill in with stories, photos, links, and the ever-popular Status Updates....

New York Times, July 21; TechNewsWorld, July 22



[Library care packages offer soldiers a morale boost](#)

The Tower Road branch of the Alachua County (Fla.) Library District has sent more than 1,000 care packages since 2004 to U.S. troops in Iraq through the [Books for Soldiers](#) website. The site allows deployed soldiers with internet access to request books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, board games, and other items from volunteers who ship the items directly. Susan Weimer, library specialist and Books for Soldiers member, said the Tower Road library comes from a tradition of outreach....

Gainesville (Fla.) Sun, July 16

[PC Wizard benchmarks your PC](#)

Adam Pash writes: "Free application PC Wizard is a portable tool that analyzes and benchmarks your PC. At its most basic, PC Wizard gives you an in-depth look at your hardware and system specs. But the app has a surprisingly rich feature set beyond that, including a password recovery tool for apps like Outlook in the System Information tool and a slew of cool benchmarking tools."...

Lifehacker, July 16



[17 things to do with your online photos](#)

Ellyssa Kroski suggests, among other things, creating librarian trading cards or badges, Animoto music videos, a coffee table book, an online portfolio, social networking slideshows, or photo widgets....

iLibrarian, July 16

[Seven ways your library can help during a bad economy](#)

Meg Marco writes: "Reader MG is a fan of this site and a public librarian and has written a list of seven ways that your library can help you during a bad economy. Libraries are an excellent resource and they're pretty easy to use. Don't worry if you're not a big reader, there's lots more stuff to do at the library besides just checking out books."...

The Consumerist, July 22



[Kay Ryan is new poet laureate](#)

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington announced July 17 the appointment of Kay Ryan as the library's 16th poet laureate consultant in poetry for 2008–2009. Ryan will take up her duties in the fall, opening LC's annual literary series October 16 with a reading of her work. She succeeds Charles Simic. You can hear Ryan talk about her appointment and read some poems on an [LC podcast](#) (21:49)....

Library of Congress, July 17



[Ways to serve older adults:](#)

1. Establish Senior Day during Older Americans Month in May
2. Host tax counseling during tax season
3. Start an oral history project on community life in the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's
4. Celebrate Veterans Day with oral history events from the Korean and Vietnam Wars
5. Develop inter-generational genealogy projects
6. Establish a Senior Services Advisory Board including Baby Boomers to develop ideas
7. Host a program during Older Americans Month for the five oldest community residents
8. Organize a great issues discussion group, including Boomers and older adults
9. Develop meaningful volunteer opportunities for Baby Boomers at your library
10. Host a book discussion program on best sellers of the 1960's and 1970's.
11. Develop a community bulletin board where people can post volunteer options
12. Organize a "Lifelong Learning" institute at your library with peers teaching peers
13. Develop a "SENIORNET" type computer lab utilizing older adults and Baby Boomers as peer-to-peer instructors
14. Partner with a local bank to offer pre-retirement financial programming
15. Develop "fun" programming for Baby Boomers, such as, "Remembering the Beatles"
16. Organize monthly cultural programs that reflect the community's diversity
17. Utilize active seniors and Baby Boomers to assist with homebound delivery of books

18. Invite the local garden club to exhibit samples of flowers each month
19. Develop booklists for distribution that focus on senior & Boomer issues and concerns
20. Utilize seniors and Baby Boomers to volunteer to give tours of the library to groups
21. Encourage the local historical society to partner with the library on programming
22. Develop an area with the library for older adults and Baby Boomers to "chat"
23. Designate a library staffperson as a "Senior & Boomer Services Librarian"
24. Develop a library marketing plan to "target" older adults and Baby Boomers
25. Develop relationships with other local agencies that serve older adults and the Baby Boomers

Source: <http://ct.webjunction.org/do/DisplayContent?pid=17268>

Books for Babies:

Through a partnership with Nordstrom, FOLUSA will be granting 20 grants for \$500 each to match \$1,000 raised by selected Friends groups, women's groups, libraries, and other non-profit organizations for purchasing Books for Babies kits from FOLUSA. Grant recipients do not need to be members of FOLUSA. The first 10 grants have been awarded. The next application deadline is October 1, 2008.

Books for Babies is a national literacy program that acquaints parents of newborns with the important role they play in the development of their children. Parents are presented with a Books for Babies kit containing a board book for baby, baby's first library card, and a variety of brochures with reading tips and early literacy information from nationally-recognized educational organizations.

By reading to their babies and by becoming regular library users themselves, parents help their babies develop language skills and start them on the path to success in reading and learning.

FOLUSA is proud to also present the Books for Babies kit in Spanish. All materials in the Spanish kit are printed in Spanish with the exception of the bib.

How the Program Works: Organizations such as Friends of the Library groups, Women's Clubs, and Junior Leagues purchase Books for Babies packets. Groups often supplement the packets with information about local resources, including library locations and contact information as well as details about lapsit and preschool storyhours.

For more information visit:

<http://www.folusa.org/outreach/books-for-babies.php>