



# LIBRARY LINKS



## WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Bookmobile Arrives at the Library**
- **New Resources!**



Looking for something to do?  
Scan the QR code to view our  
calander of programs.

Volume 25 Issue 1  
Fall & Winter 2025/26

# The Library is Coming to You!

## St. Clair County Library System Unveils New Bookmobile

The St. Clair County Library System is thrilled to announce the launch of its brand-new bookmobile, an innovative “library on wheels” designed to bring essential resources and programs directly to neighborhoods throughout the county. This exciting addition revives a rich tradition—the library system first introduced bookmobiles to the community nearly 100 years ago!

The original mobile library service dates back to the 1920s, and while operations paused for a time, the commitment to reaching every resident remains as strong as ever. The modern bookmobile is far more than just books; it offers an impressive collection of over 3,000 items, including books for all ages, movies, music, games - and, critically - a free wi-fi hotspot to help bridge the digital divide in underserved areas.

Library Director Allison Arnold sees the return of the bookmobile as more than just a nod to the past—it’s a strategic investment in the future of library service in St. Clair County. “Bringing a bookmobile back to our community has been a long-standing goal of the Library System,” said Director Arnold. “It was a key promise made during our 2022 millage campaign and an important part of our strategic plan to expand access to library services throughout St. Clair County. Thanks to the confidence and support of our residents, this vision is now becoming a reality.”

Branch lead Andrew Kercher and library branch assistant Mark Mackela are the staff dedicated to operating the new mobile branch. They are working on scheduling regular visits to schools, senior centers, community events, and neighborhoods, offering all the services you’d find in a physical branch—all you need is a library card, which you can even sign up for right on the bus!



The bookmobile team is excited to get out on the road and meet patrons where they live. “There is nothing quite like the excitement in someone’s eyes as they step onto the bookmobile for the first time,” said Kercher. “Many folks have fond memories of the bookmobile from when they were a kid, and love to reminisce. I think my favorite part may be introducing our library system to those who have never ventured inside a brick-and-mortar branch. People just love the many things beyond just books that we offer. We can’t keep our board games on the shelf!” “I love getting to drive the big truck full of books! A dream come true. Plus, no two days are the same!” added Mackela.

The return of the bookmobile fulfills part of the library’s current strategic plan to expand accessible, equitable library services to all county residents. Keep an eye out for this vibrant mobile library near you—it’s rolling into a new chapter of outreach for the St. Clair County Library System!  
***If you would like a visit from the bookmobile, please email: [bookmobile@sccl.lib.mi.us](mailto:bookmobile@sccl.lib.mi.us) or call (810)-201-6622***



# Bookmobile Timeline

1925



1938



1949



1964



1964



1964



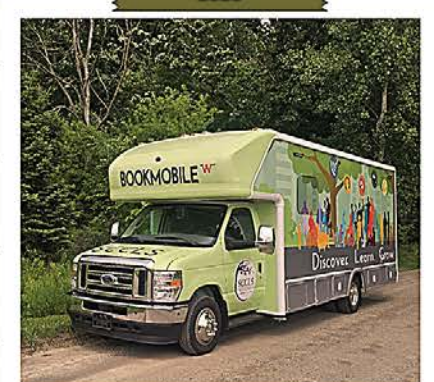
1975



2025



2025



# Do you know about Libby and Hoopla?

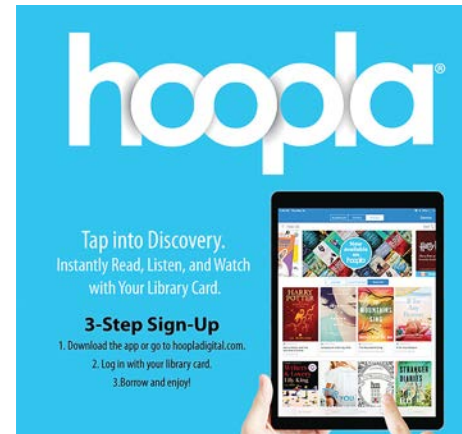
The St. Clair County Library System offers two fantastic digital platforms, Libby and Hoopla, to give cardholders free access to a vast collection of ebooks, audiobooks, and more. All you need is your library card to start enjoying thousands of titles from the comfort of your home.

## Libby: Your Gateway to Ebooks, Audiobooks, and Magazines

Libby is the library's primary app for borrowing **ebooks**, **digital audiobooks**, and **magazines**. The app, created by OverDrive, is incredibly user-friendly and can be accessed on a variety of devices, including smartphones, tablets, and computers. With your St. Clair County Library System card, you can borrow up to 10 items at a time and place up to 7 items on hold. A key benefit of Libby is that there are no late fees; all items are automatically returned on their due date. This service also provides access to a huge collection of digital magazines, with unlimited access to each issue. You can even use your card to access collections from other participating libraries in Michigan's Resource Lending Agreement (RLA) to expand your options, making it a powerful tool for avid readers.

## Hoopla: Instant Access to Movies, Music, and More

Hoopla is another excellent digital resource that offers a different type of content. With Hoopla, there are no waitlists for titles. You can instantly stream or download movies, TV shows, music, comics, and even some ebooks and audiobooks. The St. Clair County Library System allows cardholders a specific number of borrows per month, which resets on the first of each month. This service is perfect for those who want instant gratification and don't want to wait for popular titles to become available. Hoopla also offers **BingePasses**, which give you unlimited access to specific content collections, like certain magazines or educational videos, with just one borrow. This feature is handy for families and students.



## How to Get Started

Getting started with these services is simple and entirely free for St. Clair County residents. First, ensure you have a valid St. Clair County Library System card. You can sign up for free at any of the library's branches if you don't have one. To use Libby or Hoopla, just download the respective app from your device's app store (available on iOS and Android) or visit their websites. After installing, you'll be prompted to find your library and sign in using your St. Clair County Library System card number and PIN. Once logged in, you can browse, borrow, and enjoy a world of digital content, from best-selling novels to hit movies and everything in between. Whether you're a bookworm, a movie buff, or a music lover, Libby and Hoopla have something for everyone.



# Exploring History: St. Clair County Library System Offers “Black Freedom Struggle” Database

The St. Clair County Library System (SCCLS) is committed to providing its patrons with diverse and enriching educational resources. Among its valuable digital offerings is the “Black Freedom Struggle in the United States” database, a powerful tool for exploring the multifaceted history of African Americans. This comprehensive collection, powered by ProQuest, offers a vast array of primary source documents, making it an invaluable resource for students, researchers, and anyone interested in delving deeper into this crucial aspect of American history.

The database chronicles the Black freedom struggle across various pivotal periods, from the Transatlantic Slave Trade and the Reconstruction era to the Civil Rights Movement and the contemporary challenges of the 21st century. Users can access many materials, including historical newspaper articles, pamphlets, speeches, letters, protest movement records, government documents, and oral histories. Imagine reading firsthand accounts from abolitionists, examining legal arguments from landmark civil rights cases, or poring over manifestos from influential Black organizations. The “Black Freedom Struggle” database brings these voices and events directly to your screen, fostering a more nuanced understanding of the fight for equality.

This resource is designed to support a wide range of academic and personal inquiries. Students working on history projects can find primary sources that bring their research to life. Educators can utilize the database to create engaging lesson plans and expose their classes to authentic historical documents. Genealogists might uncover invaluable information about their ancestors’ experiences. For the general public, it offers an accessible way to engage with the complex narratives of courage, resilience, and perseverance that define the Black freedom struggle.



## How to Access the “Black Freedom Struggle” Database:

Accessing this powerful resource is straightforward for SCCLS cardholders.

- 1. Visit the SCCLS Website:** Navigate to the official St. Clair County Library System website.
- 2. Click on Search Books & Media:** scroll down to the Specialty Databases section and the Additional Resources sub-section.
- 3. Find the ProQuest “Black Freedom” icon:** click ‘visit’
- 4. Log In (if required):** enter your SCCLS library card number and PIN
- 5. Begin Your Exploration:** You’ll have full access to the database’s extensive collection once logged in. Utilize the search bar, browse by topic, or explore different historical eras to begin your journey into this vital historical record.

The “Black Freedom Struggle” database is more than just a collection of documents; it’s a gateway to understanding the profound impact of African American history on the fabric of the United States. Take advantage of this incredible resource offered by your St. Clair County Library System and embark on a journey of discovery.

# Montage: a portal to St. Clair County's past

The **Montage database** is a unique digital collection maintained by the St. Clair County Library System (SCCLS) that offers a window into St. Clair County's visual history. Nestled within the Michigan Room at the Main Branch in Port Huron, it preserves and shares photographs, archives, and digitized images reflecting local heritage.

## What Is the Montage Collection?

Montage is a collection of digitized photos that highlights historical photographs documenting evolving landscapes, cultural events, public buildings, neighborhood life, and people from across St. Clair County's past. Because these images are digitized, they become accessible beyond physical boundaries, ensuring preservation and wider public access.

## Purpose & Importance

Montage serves several vital roles:

- **Preservation of local memory:** The library digitizes fragile or aging photos and archives to prevent further physical deterioration.
- **Accessibility for research and education:** Students, historians, genealogists, and curious residents can explore visual records of the county's history without needing to be physically present in the Michigan Room.
- **Community connection:** The images help residents reconnect with the familiar—but sometimes forgotten—places, faces, and moments of St. Clair County's past.



## Access & Use

To explore Montage, begin via the SCCLS website, in the "Search Books & Media" section, where Montage is listed below the Additional Resources heading. Click the "visit" button and you're in. Physical access is also possible—visitors may use the Michigan Room (hours vary; appointments are encouraged) to view original or higher-resolution materials.

The Montage database is part of the SCCLS's continuing effort to preserve and share St. Clair County's visual heritage. It bridges the past and present, enabling residents and researchers to explore the county's collective memory.

The SCCLS is always looking to add to its collections.

If you have items of interest, please contact librarians Mae Coppi: [mcoppi@sccd.lib.mi.us](mailto:mcoppi@sccd.lib.mi.us) or Michelle Roberts at: [mroberts@sccd.lib.mi.us](mailto:mroberts@sccd.lib.mi.us)



# GetSetUp : online learning for older adults

The St. Clair County Library System (SCCLS) offers its patrons free access to GetSetUp, an online learning platform designed specifically for older adults. This resource provides a wide range of interactive, live classes on topics from technology and wellness to creative arts and hobbies. The partnership between GetSetUp, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and the Library of Michigan makes this valuable resource available to all Michigan residents, helping to reduce social isolation and promote lifelong learning.



## How to Access GetSetUp

Accessing GetSetUp begins with your St. Clair County Library System resources and requires a valid library card.

### 1. Start at the Library's Main Site:

Navigate to the St. Clair County Library System's homepage: [www.stclaircountylibrary.org](http://www.stclaircountylibrary.org).

**2. Locate the Catalog:** Look for the link or section for "Search Books and Media."

**3. Find the Resource Link:** Scroll down and find GetSetUp under the Additional Resources heading.

**4. To access the GetSetUp Resource Link:** Click the visit link for **GetSetUp**.

**5. Create an account:** Follow the prompts to sign up and enter your SCCLS library card number (if prompted) to confirm your free access as a Michigan resident.

Alternatively, you can visit any SCCLS branch and ask library staff for assistance in locating the visit link and accessing the platform from a public computer.

## What is GetSetUp?

GetSetUp is a social learning platform where older adults (typically 55+) can learn new skills, connect with others, and unlock new experiences. The classes are taught by expert instructors who are often older adults themselves, creating a welcoming and relatable learning environment. The platform is designed to be user-friendly, making it easy for seniors to join classes from the comfort of their own homes using a computer, tablet, or smartphone.

## How it Works

These aren't just pre-recorded videos; they are interactive sessions where participants can ask questions and engage with the instructor and other learners. The curriculum covers a diverse array of subjects:

- **Technology:** Classes on using smartphones, Google Photos, Zoom, and other essential digital tools.
- **Health & Wellness:** Sessions on chair yoga, strength training, Tai Chi, and nutrition.
- **Hobbies & Interests:** Workshops on everything from cooking and gardening to creative writing and art.

By offering this resource, the St. Clair County Library System empowers its community members to stay active, engaged, and connected in an increasingly digital world.



## Consumer Reports Helps You Save Money

As a St. Clair County Library System cardholder, you have access to a wealth of digital resources, and one of the most valuable is the Consumer Reports database. This service provides free, unlimited access to the full content of Consumer Reports, a trusted source for unbiased product reviews and ratings. It's an incredible perk that can save you money and help you make smarter purchasing decisions.

### What You Get

The database isn't just a digital replica of the magazine. It includes comprehensive reviews, ratings, and comparisons for thousands of products and services, from appliances and electronics to cars and financial services. You'll find detailed buying guides, video reviews, and a wealth of information to help you choose the best option. The content is updated regularly, ensuring you have the latest information at your fingertips.

### How It Helps You

Whether you're planning a major purchase like a new refrigerator or simply trying to decide on the best blender, the Consumer Reports database is your go-to tool. The reports are based on extensive, independent testing, so you can be confident that the recommendations are free from advertising influence. This helps you avoid marketing hype and focus on what really matters: performance, safety, and reliability.

### Accessing the Database

Gaining access is simple. All you need is your valid St. Clair County Library System card and an internet connection. The database can be accessed from any computer, tablet, or smartphone, whether you're at home or on the go. To begin, simply navigate to the library's online resources page ([https://stclaircountylibrary.org/search\\_and\\_media](https://stclaircountylibrary.org/search_and_media)), scroll down to the Consumer Reports link, click visit, and log in with your library card number. You'll be one click away from becoming a more informed consumer.

## Niche Academy: learn to use the library's databases and more!

The St. Clair County Library System provides cardholders access to Niche Academy, a dynamic online learning platform. This resource offers a variety of tutorials designed to help patrons and staff alike. Niche Academy aims to empower users by providing easy-to-understand, on-demand tutorials. The platform is handy for those who want to learn how to use the library's many digital resources, such as e-books, streaming services, and databases like *Hoopla, Libby, and Ancestry.com*.



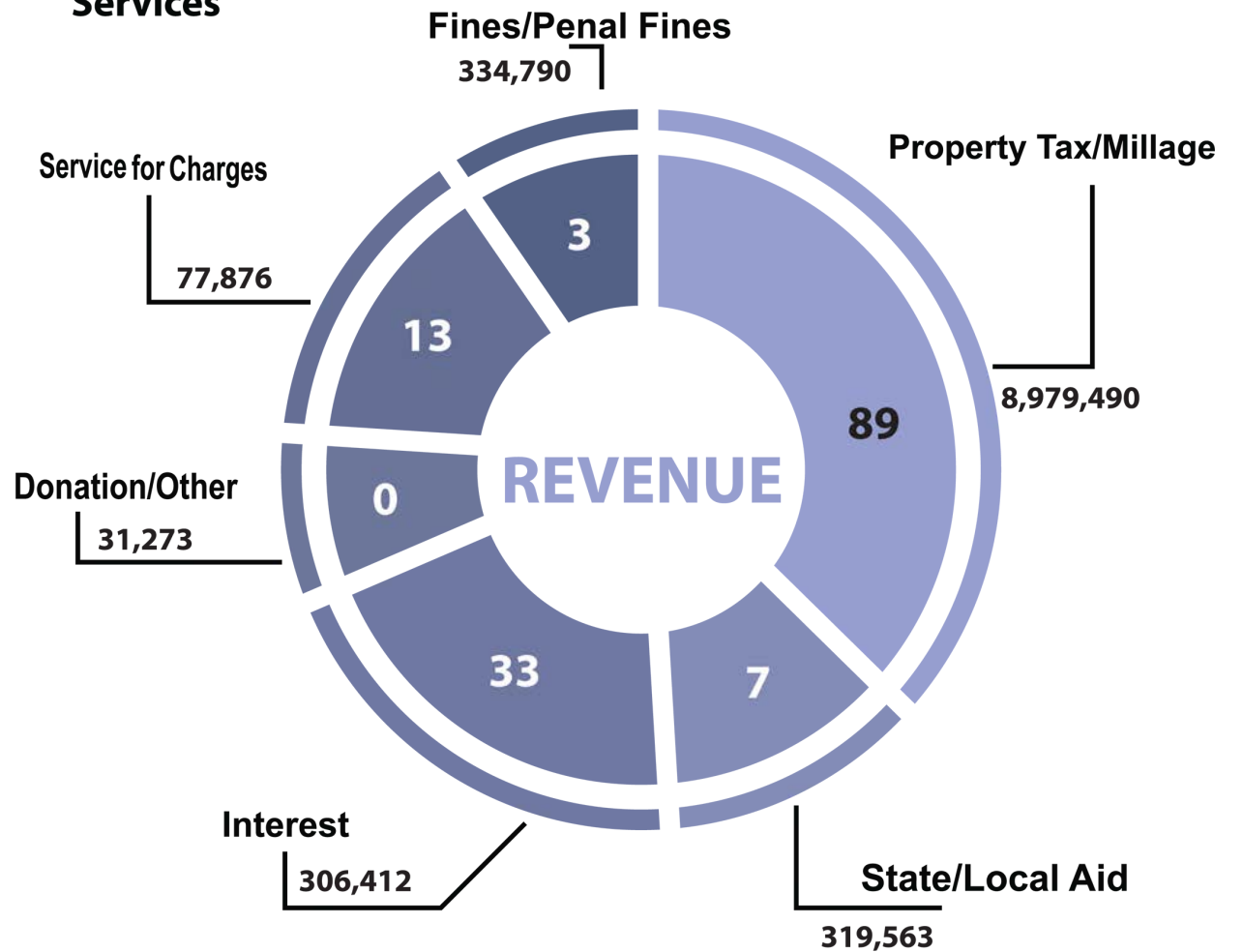
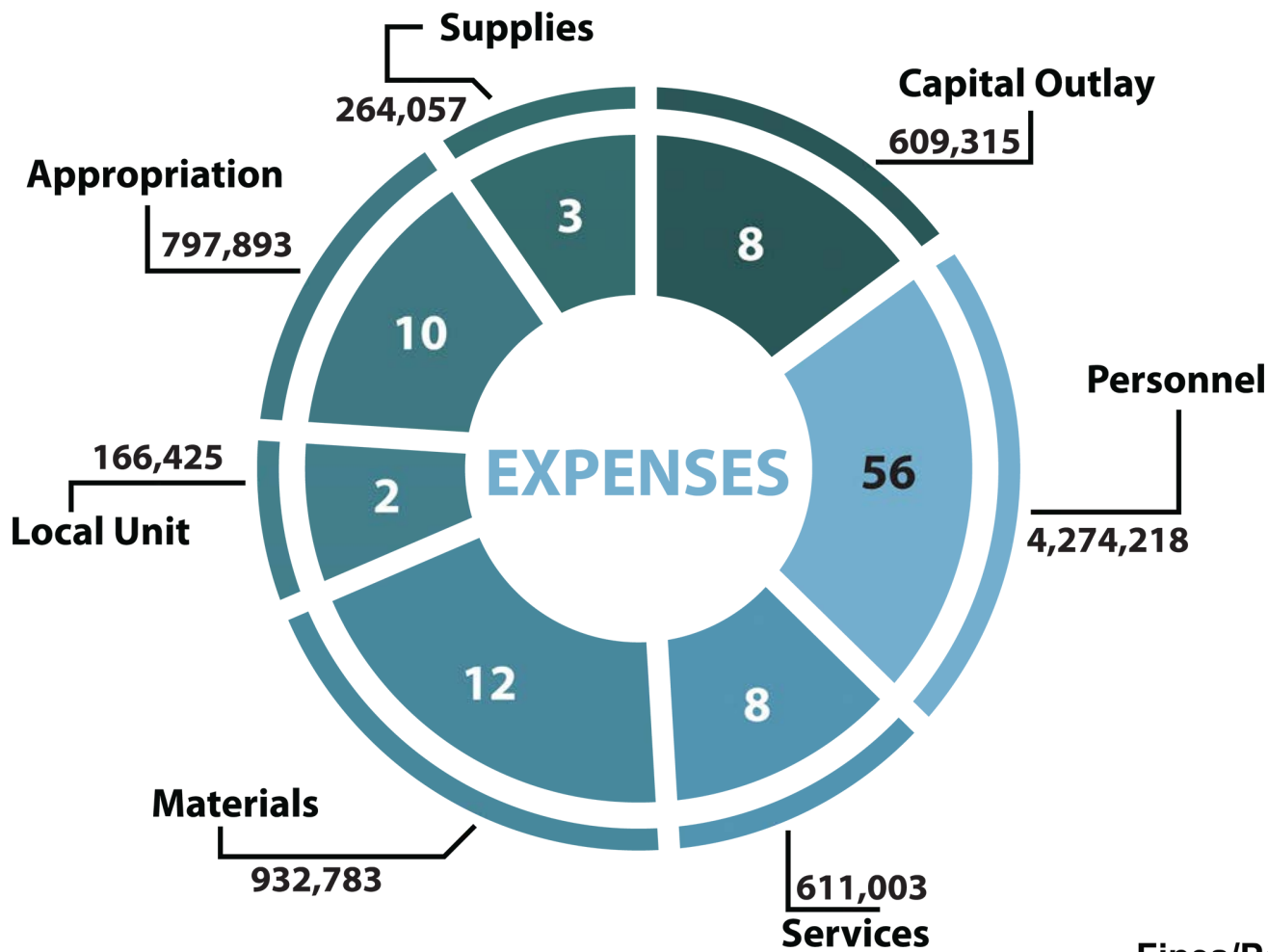
### Key Features & Benefits

Niche Academy features an extensive library of video tutorials that cover everything from library-specific tools to general technology skills. Users can access training on popular software like Microsoft Office, Google applications, and social media platforms. The tutorials are self-paced, allowing people to learn at their convenience, and many offer both video and printable text with images to accommodate different learning styles. The platform also helps the library system by providing a seamless way to train staff on essential skills, improving customer service and overall efficiency.

To access Niche Academy, visit the St. Clair County Library System website and look for the link under "Additional Resources" in the "Search Books & Media" section. Click the "visit" button and you will be ready to explore!

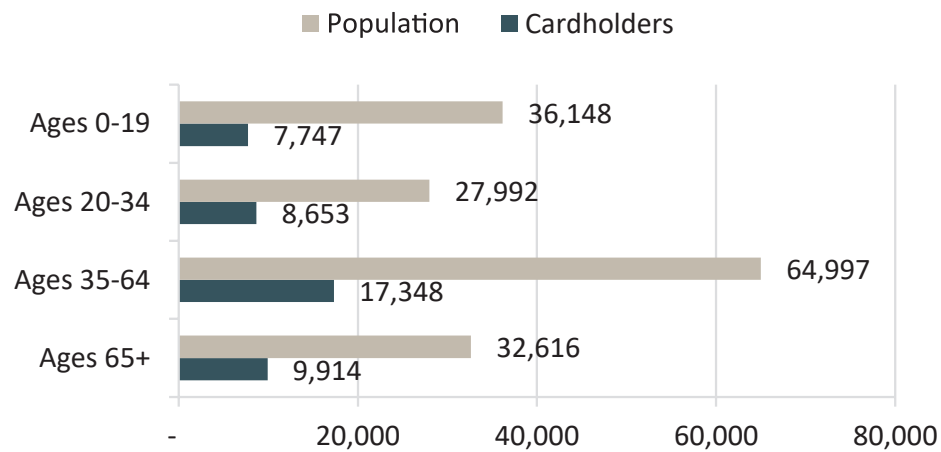
By making learning accessible and straightforward, Niche Academy helps the St. Clair County Library System increase the use of its valuable resources, ensuring the community gets the most out of its library card.

# SCCLS Revenue & Expenditures - 2024

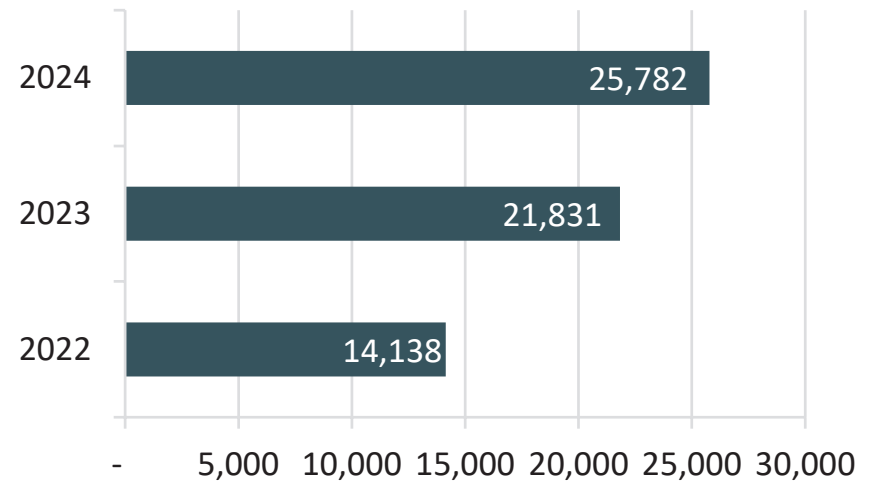


# SCCLS Library Statistics - 2024

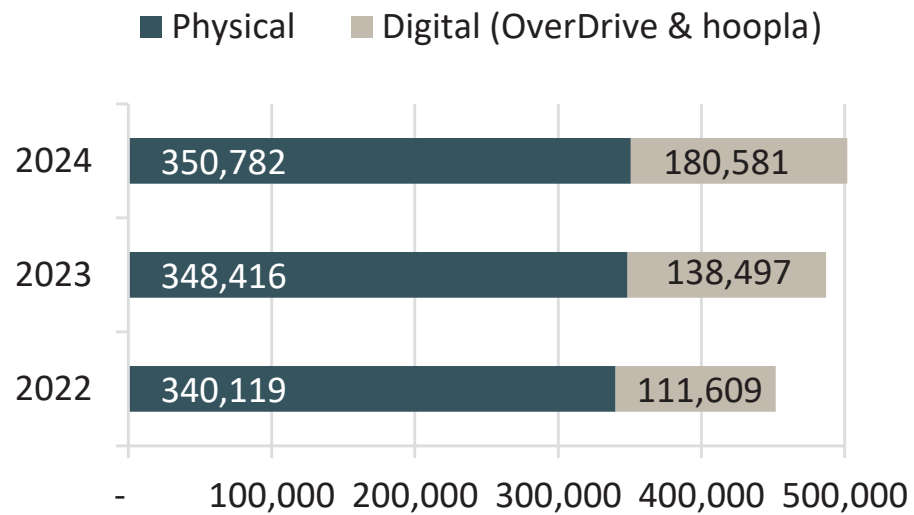
## County Population and Cardholder Demographics



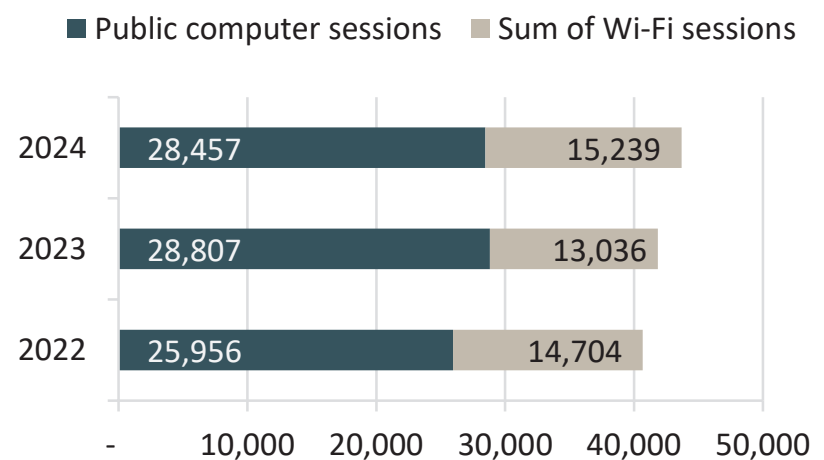
## Program Attendance



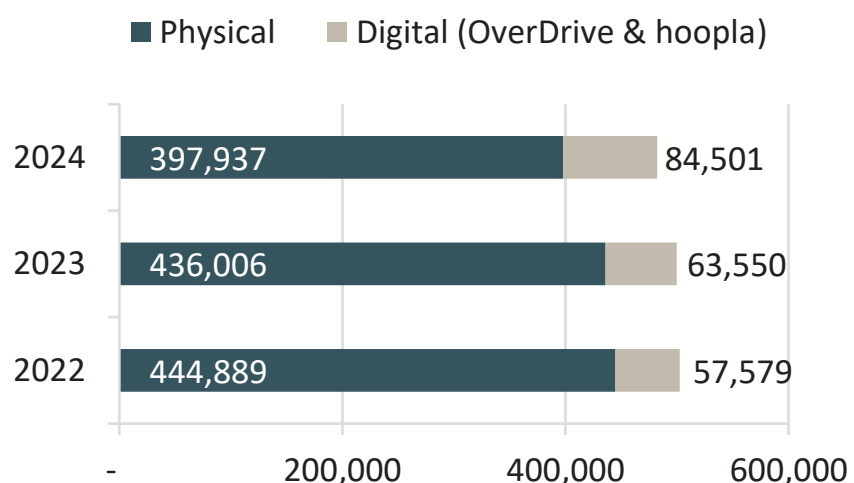
## Items Circulated



## Computer and Wi-Fi Use



## Items in Collection



# OUR MISSION

Discover. Learn. Grow.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

District 1: Andrea W. Cansfield  
(Trustee)

District 2: Elizabeth R. Buckley  
(Trustee)

District 3: Stacey A. Lauwers  
(Trustee)

District 4: Michael P. McCartan  
(Chairperson)

District 5: Vacant

## SYSTEM DIRECTOR

Allison Arnold, MLIS

## Friends Groups: A Vital Support System for St. Clair County Libraries

Friends of the Library groups are essential volunteer organizations that provide invaluable support to the St. Clair County Library System (SCCLS). These dedicated groups act as dynamic partners, enhancing library services and outreach beyond what public funding alone can achieve.

The core value of Friends groups lies in their ability to fundraise and advocate. Through popular events like used book sales, dues, and donations, Friends groups generate crucial revenue. This money often goes directly toward purchasing materials, funding educational and entertaining programs, sponsoring author visits, and acquiring new furniture and technology that benefits the entire community.

Beyond financial support, Friends members serve as vital advocates for the SCCLS. They mobilize community support for library initiatives and raise awareness about the library's importance as a civic and educational hub.

By volunteering their time and resources, Friends groups ensure the St. Clair County libraries remain vibrant, modern, and capable of meeting the diverse needs of their patrons. To lend your support, enhance your local branch, and become a part of this valuable network, contact your local library branch to inquire about joining their Friends group today.





# SCCLS

ST. CLAIR COUNTY  
LIBRARY SYSTEM

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #792  
ROYAL OAK, MI 48068

## ECRWSEDDM RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Your library accepts:



\$5 minimum

24/7 Wi-Fi available!



The St. Clair County Library Board of Trustees meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm  
November 18, & December 9, January 27, February 24, March 24, April 28, May 26  
Contact the Library for the location.

## Hours and Locations

**Port Huron - Main**  
210 McMorrان Blvd.  
Port Huron (810) 987-7323  
L.A.M.T.B. (800) 272-8570  
Mon - Thur 9:00-8:00  
Fri 9:00 - 5:00  
Sat 9:00 - 5:00

**Algonac - Clay Twp.**  
2011 St. Clair River Dr.  
Algonac (810) 794-4471  
Mon - Thur 9:00-8:00  
Fri 9:00 - 5:00  
Sat 9:00 - 5:00

**Burtchville Twp.**  
7093 Second St.  
Lakeport (810) 385-8550  
Mon, Wed, Fri, & Sat 9:00 - 5:00  
Tue, Thur 9:00 - 8:00

**Capac**  
111 N. Main  
Capac (810) 395-7000  
Mon-Thur 9:00 - 8:00  
Fri 9:00 - 5:00  
Sat 9:00 - 5:00

**G. Lynn Campbell**  
1955 N. Allen Rd.  
Kimball (810) 982-9171  
Mon, Wed, Fri 9:00 - 5:00  
Tue, Thur 9:00 - 8:00  
Sat 9:00 - 5:00

**Bookmobile**  
(810) 201-6622  
Bookmobile@sccl.lib.mi.us

**Ira Twp.**  
7013 Meldrum Rd.  
Fair Haven (586)-725-9081  
Mon, Wed, Fri, & Sat 9:00 - 5:00  
Tue, Thur 12:00 - 8:00

**Marine City**  
300 S. Parker St.  
Marine City (810) 765-5233  
Mon - Thur 9:00-8:00  
Fri 9:00 - 5:00  
Sat 9:00 - 5:00

**Marysville**  
1175 Delaware  
Marysville (810) 364-9493  
Mon - Thur 9:00-8:00  
Fri 9:00 - 5:00  
Sat 9:00 - 5:00

**Memphis**  
34830 Potter St.  
Memphis (810) 392-2980  
Mon, Wed, Fri, & Sat 9:00 - 5:00  
Tue, Thur 9:00 - 8:00

**St. Clair**  
310 S. Second St.  
St. Clair (810) 329-3951  
Mon - Thur 9:00-8:00  
Fri 9:00 - 5:00  
Sat 9:00 - 5:00

**Yale**  
2 Jones St.  
Yale (810) 387-2940  
Mon - Thur 9:00-8:00  
Fri 9:00 - 5:00  
Sat 9:00 - 5:00



@stclaircountylibrarysystem

Your Library System will be closed:  
November 27, 28, December 24, 25, 31, January 1, 19, Feb. 16, & May 25