

ST CLAIR COUNTY **LIBRARY SYSTEM**

Progress Report

2016



*Connecting You To
A
World Of Information
for 99 years*

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Our Mission

Connecting You
to a
World of Information

Our Vision

Serve as a network of vital
community centers that provide
resources to educate, inform
and entertain

ST. CLAIR COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- District 1: David C. Whipple
- District 2: Arlene M. Marcetti (Vice-Chairperson)
- District 3: Kathleen J. Wheelihan (Chairperson)
- District 4: Daniel G. Lockwood
- District 5: Charlotte A. Stanulis

DIRECTOR ST. CLAIR COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM Allison Arnold, MLIS

- #### ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM
- Melba Moss, Public Service Coordinator
 - Jim Stoutmeyer, Administrative Service Coordinator
 - Mike Mercatante, Community Relations & Friend Development Coordinator
 - Nicole Pinsky, Innovation, Technology & Collections Coordinator

LEAD LIBRARIANS

- Circulation Services: Anne Marie Bedard
- Reference Services: Barb King
- Technical Services: Angela Klocek
- Youth Services: Tarri Ryan

BRANCH LEADS

- Algonac-Clay: Scott Nichols
- Burtchville Twp.: Jane Fortushniak
- Capac: Breezy Mullins
- G. Lynn Campbell: Jenna Reed
- Ira Twp.: Gary Kupper
- Marine City: Andrew Webb
- Marysville: Nancy Godinez
- Memphis: Karyl Birkett
- St. Clair: Julie Alef
- Yale: Lori Herrington

Community

Last June my cousin Carol Iram and I traveled together across the country from her home outside Boston to mine near Salem, Oregon. This trip was something that had been on our bucket lists for a long time.



Our maternal grandmother was born in Marine City, Michigan, and we had heard stories of her father captaining a ship on the Great Lakes. So we scheduled a stop with a bit of family history in hand and hopes of finding our Basney family records. After a failed search in Maine, our hopes were not high.

Once in Michigan we headed to the Marine City Library. The librarian there was a godsend, directing us to a small cabinet filled with histories of prominent families and early settlers of St. Clair County. A tab that stuck up in the top drawer was very clearly marked "Basney." When I reached inside, I found a thick book of our family history which went back 400 years to our French ancestors. There were pictures of our family members, our mothers as children, and even our own names!

We were able to locate the cemetery and pay our respects to our ancestors, and I eventually was able to contact my third cousin. Without the help of the Marine City Library and staff, we would never have found this treasure of information that had been lost to the Oregon half of the family. Our great thanks to that librarian for her help. *TJ Rhoads, Keizer, OR*



William Churchill, a Marysville resident, knows about life on the road. He has been a truck driver for over 30 years and sometimes drives 600-700 miles in a day. He is also an avid reader and library user.

Mr. Churchill is a big fan of the library's audiobook collection and checks out several books every time he goes out. "The Library audiobooks are a godsend. They make the trips better and the miles pass quicker. I used to rent audiobooks at truckstops and the books on tape store but that was expensive," he told us. He's been checking out audiobooks from the library since the 1990s. It usually takes him a day and half to finish a book. He listens to books while he drives and reads print in the evening.

Thank you for your patronage, Mr. Churchill!

Connections



I have always loved reading! Growing up I would take a book with me anywhere I went. While I was in college I took a children's literature class and read the original Pooh Bear stories and fell in love! There was so much wit and humor and it was just adorable.

While I was in college Abe and I had a long-distance relationship, so we were trying to find creative things we could do together while on the phone or facetimeing. One day I told him how I like the classic *Winnie-the-Pooh* books and he bought them. We would have little dates where he would read them to me over the phone. He was really good at it because he read with all the different characters' voices. So Pooh Bear kind of became our book.

When the time came to have engagement pictures taken, I knew I wanted to do something with a literary theme because the theme of our wedding is "Our Love Story." So what better place to get pictures with books than a library?

We had a lot of fun getting pictures at the Main Library, and the employees were very kind to let us invade the rows of books. *Kelsey & Abram, Kimball*

From The Director...



2015 was a great and stimulating year for the St. Clair County Library System. We experienced many changes, transitions and transformations, met new staff, said goodbye to coworkers as they began well-deserved retirements, overcame challenges, and made new friends. The Library staff continues to be blessed with the support of the community.

Our core purpose, "Connecting you to a world of information," has helped us to focus on meeting the changing needs of our community, developing and growing new programs, and providing our patrons an opportunity to be part of the Library as it, in turn, becomes an indispensable part of their lives. We are becoming less about what we *have* for people and more about what we *do* together – for and with each other.

In the past year, your Library staff, administration, and Board of Trustees have been focused on providing responsive and innovative services to meet the needs of our community, enabling people to experience the Library as a place like no other. We are identifying practices that are no longer helpful to the growth of the organization and embracing those activities that help us to become relevant for today and into the future. St. Clair County residents of all ages come to their Library to be connected to their community, to learn, to read, to sort out issues, to look for jobs, and to connect with others.

I am very proud of the growth in the level of support for the local branch libraries. Our municipal partners and Friends of the Library groups have put time, effort, and resources into making significant physical improvements to all of our branch buildings, creating comfortable and inviting library experiences. The largest of these improvements were the expansions at the Ira Township and Capac branch libraries.

I believe that through these efforts there is a growing appreciation for the Library's ability to contribute meaningful, well-thought-out and well-executed programs and services. I am excited about the future and plan to continue our work to highlight the opportunities and possibilities for an expanded Library role within our county.

Sincerely,

Director
St. Clair County Library System

Dear Capac Librarians,

Thank you for your kindness and gratitude you've made given me and my little brother since we've first got our library. The wonderful books you keep inside those bright bookshelves has opened me up to a world I never knew. Many kids my age wouldn't really do something like this but if you haven't noticed yet I'm not like other kids my age. Anyway your... humbles and wonderful books have come through my darkest time. I thank you once again for sparking my imagination.

Sincerely,
Erin

Our Vision

The vision of the St. Clair County Library System is to be the county's foremost source for free, unbiased information. The Library is the public's guide to information literacy. Our mission statement is "connecting you to a world of information" and we have dozens of staff trained to assist patrons with all their information needs.

The 11 St. Clair County Library System branches are a network of vital community centers that supports continuous learning, individual growth, encouragement for reading, and community enrichment. We plan programs on topics of great interest and usefulness to our patrons and visitors of all ages. Our collections evoke interest by being the finest possible with current, popular, and hard-to-find items to browse or request.

Our library buildings are provided and maintained with pride through partnerships with local communities. They are spacious and inviting places for people to learn, create, discover, imagine, and grow.

In order to adapt to changing times and needs, a strategic master plan was developed by people dedicated to quality library service. Here are the eight goals from the five year (2015-2020) plan:

Goal 1: Creative And Inspiring Presence

Create a physical and virtual presence that is stimulating, welcoming, and inspirational.

Goal 2: Community Partnerships

Enhance the St. Clair County Library System's role in improving the quality of life by developing relationships with existing and new stakeholders and encouraging participation in library programs and services.

Goal 3: Innovation

Reinvent the St. Clair County Library System by fostering a culture of innovation.

Goal 4: Financial Stability

Ensure financial stability for continuation of quality library services.

Goal 5: Promotion Of Services

Vigorously market library services, programs, and resources to ensure the library system is known throughout St. Clair County as THE provider of quality information.

Goal 6: Redesign Of Physical Space

Space in St. Clair County Library buildings will be studied and redesigned to better serve patrons' needs.

Goal 7: Positive Environment

The St. Clair County Library will provide a positive environment for library patrons and staff.

Goal 8: Services Assessment And Improvement

The St. Clair County Library will assess four services for improvement each year.

The year 2017 marks the 100th anniversary for the St. Clair County Library System. That's a long time for any organization to be in business. Longevity doesn't just happen without tremendous community support. Communities are as vital to libraries as libraries are to communities. We are one. We are grateful for the opportunity to have served you for 99 years and look forward to many more.

notable numbers

Did you know how much your Library was used?

<u>Items</u>	<u>2015 Circulation</u>	<u>Collection Size</u>
Books	417,337	379,925
Magazines	42,007	21,637
Books On CD	55,963	16,247
DVDs	106,182	50,206
Music CDs	34,212	22,738
Total	655,701	490,753



Like us on Facebook!
A 29% increase in Facebook likes in 2015.

Hoopla eMaterials Collection: 416,046
eMaterials downloaded in 2015:
eBooks: 795 eTelevision: 349
eAudio: 1278 eMovies: 1281
eComics: 257 eMusic: 1166
July - December 2015

Overdrive Electronic Titles added in 2015:
eBooks: 1018 Collection: 3054
eAudio: 298 Collection: 1185
eTitles checked out in 2015: 32,618

Over 200 digital magazine titles available for download through Zinio.
Patrons downloaded over 6,615 magazines last year.



Over 560,000 patrons visited the St. Clair County Library System last year.

I just love taking my family to the library for all of the activities they plan for us in Burtchville.
Jessica Wahowske

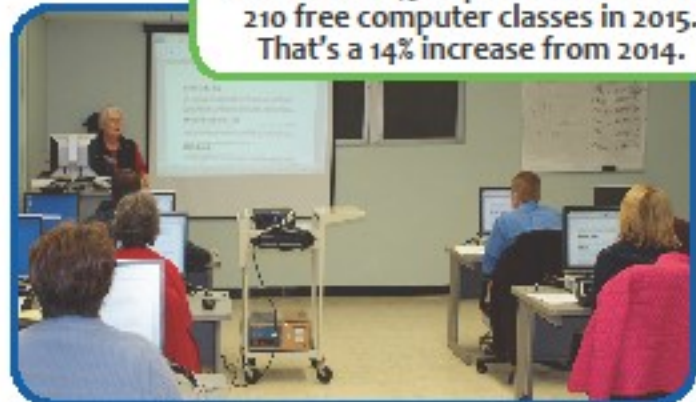


I have so much fun going to my local library!
Sheila Clouse

More than 26,000 patrons enjoyed exciting and informative programs for children, teens, adults & families.

Fantastic, fabulous, wonderful people work here.
Kim Krueger

More than 1,500 patrons attended 210 free computer classes in 2015. That's a 14% increase from 2014.



In 2015, patrons logged 250,000 hours on the public computers. Over a 56% increase from last year!



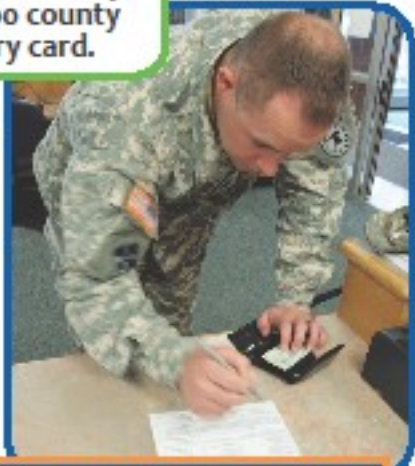
I'm so glad I came to the library. If it weren't for you guys, I'd have given up.
Army Veteran Harland Myron

Library card holders increased by 4% last year. Over 65,000 county residents have a library card.



I am greeted by name every time I walk into my library, making me feel more like a friend than a patron.
Sandy Koglin

Patrons accessed the library's now 24/7 free wireless network over 22,000 times.



The world is at your fingertips in the library.
Rachel Henion



Branch Highlights

Libraries mirror their communities. Each branch of the St. Clair County Library System prides itself on being a positive reflection of its city, township, and county. They are unique and yet connected. Just like all of us. Thank you for your patronage and we hope you get a chance to visit all 11 branches!



Algonac-Clay Branch: New entrance and bathroom flooring was installed in March. Funding came from the city and Clay Twp. as well as the Friends of the Algonac-Clay Library. Thank you!

Burtchville Twp. Branch: Local firefighters helped provide valuable information for "Fire Prevention Week." Christmas gift basket items were donated by local community members and businesses.

Capac Branch: Added 2,500 sq. ft. of new library space with a beautiful expansion. A stellar example of library/community partnerships, the funding was provided by the



Friends of the Capac Library, the DDA, the village of Capac, memorial donations, and various fundraisers by private citizens.

G. Lynn Campbell Branch: A new branch lead, Jenna Reed, was hired in July from the Marysville branch. Partnerships were formed with the MSU Extension, 4-H, Woman's Life Chapter 803, and local businesses to construct outdoor library space including a community garden and seating. New ADA-compliant doors were installed. New children's furniture was purchased.



Ira Twp. Branch: Library space nearly doubled with a 26' x 40' addition. This addition was dedicated to Phoebe Becker, the first Ira Librarian. Walls, ceilings, and windows in the older section of the building were painted. A new lighting system was installed. A pretty electric fireplace and new chairs were also installed.

Main Library: Major improvements in staff areas. A skateboard rack was added in front of the building. Outdoor benches were provided by the Friends.

Marine City Branch: A popular makerspace area was created. The parking lot was repaved. New library furniture was purchased. An additional book club, gardening club, ladies' craft night, and a knitting group were added as regular branch programs.

Marysville Branch: Another section of the wonderful wildlife mural was completed by artist Jane Weis; the new addition portrayed sea life. The AARP helped seniors and low-income people prepare taxes. Driver's education classes were offered via Marysville Schools. Lots of exciting programs.

Memphis Branch: A partnership with the Detroit Institute of Arts and their Inside/Out program brought high-quality art reproductions outside the library and all throughout town. Multiple library programs were inspired by these paintings.

St. Clair Branch: Successful Cribbage and Euchre clubs. An outdoor patio was constructed. Bike rack was repainted by a local business. A unique seed sharing and saving program was implemented for local gardeners to use.



Yale Branch: New furniture courtesy of the Friends of the Yale Library. Staff continues to deliver books to the appreciative residents of MediLodge.

System-wide: In 2015, Library staff collected thousands of items kindly donated by patrons to help the less fortunate and those who serve our country, through these promotional campaigns: Mitten Tree, Sock It To Me, Stuff A Stocking, and Support Our Troops.

Due to generous donations made to St. Clair County Community Mental Health's Gift of Knowledge project, 27 books were donated to the Library.



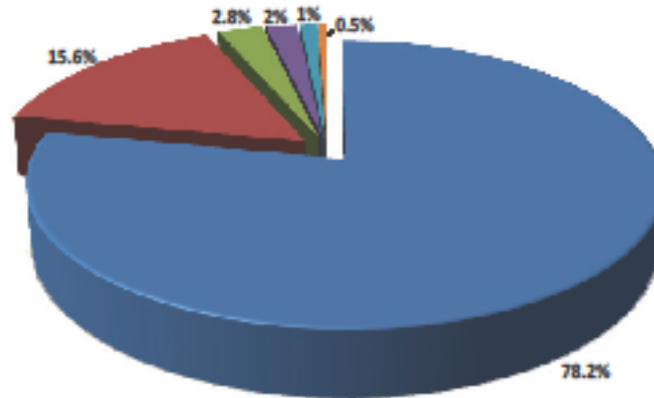
With Gratitude...
The Library Endowment Fund
Community Foundation Of St. Clair County
2015 Donors

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Catlos	Mr. & Mrs. James Chubb
Mrs. Patricia Closs	Mr. Gregory Gadren
Mr. Roy Klecha, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Ray LaParl
Mr. & Mrs. William Maas	Mr. & Mrs. David Whipple
Business And Professional Women's Club of Port Huron	
Friends of the St. Clair Library	

Current Balance: \$225,660.50

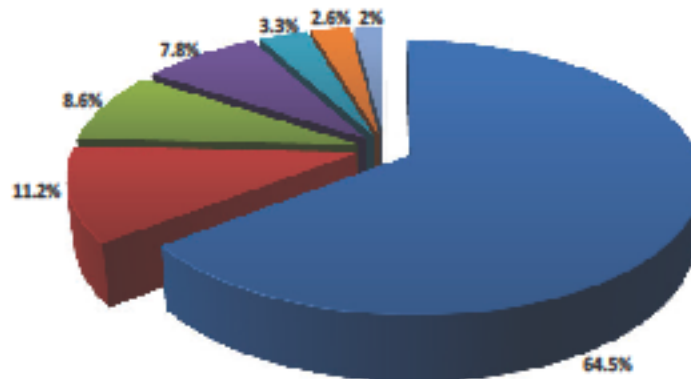
Financials

2015 Revenue



Property Tax/Millage	\$3,842,687	Charges For Services	\$96,012
Fines & Penal Fines	\$766,722	Interest & DVD Rentals	\$50,604
State/Local Aid	\$135,708	Donations & Other	\$24,910

2015 Expenditures



Personnel	\$3,083,235	Local Unit Reimburse.	\$156,217
Library Material	\$537,909	Capital Outlay	\$126,575
County Appropriation	\$412,172	Supplies	\$93,705
Services	\$374,101		

*If you have any questions about your Library, please contact:
Library Director Allison Arnold
877.987.READ ext. 122 or aarnold@sccl.lib.mi.us*

"Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries." - Anne Herbert



St. Clair County Library System
 210 McMorran Blvd.
 Port Huron, MI 48060
 877.987.READ

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Progress Report 2016

ST. CLAIR COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
11 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

MAIN LIBRARY

210 McMorran Blvd. ■ Port Huron ■ (877) 987.READ

ALGONAC-CLAY TWP. BRANCH

2011 St. Clair River Dr. ● Algonac ● (810) 794.4471

BURTCHVILLE TWP. BRANCH

7093 Second St. ■ Lakeport ● (810) 385.8550

CAPAC BRANCH

111 N. Main ■ Capac ■ (810) 395.7000

G. LYNN CAMPBELL BRANCH

1955 N. Allen Rd. ● Kimball ● (810) 982.9171

IRA TWP. BRANCH

7013 Meldrum Rd. ● Fair Haven ■ (586) 725.9081

MARINE CITY BRANCH

300 S. Parker St. ● Marine City ● (810) 765.5233

MARYSVILLE BRANCH

1175 Delaware ● Marysville ■ (810) 364.9493

MEMPHIS BRANCH

34830 Potter St. ● Memphis ■ (810) 392.2980

ST. CLAIR BRANCH

310 S. Second St. ● St. Clair ● (810) 329.3951

YALE BRANCH

2 Jones St. ● Yale ■ (810) 387.2940



*Progress Report compiled & designed
 by the Library's Community Relations
 Department.*