



The

Library

Connection

From the Director

Grace A. Dow Memorial Library A SERVICE OF THE CITY OF MIDLAND

I have had the opportunity to speak to various organizations and many residents in the community. Often I am asked how the library is funded. Many people assume that the library's operational costs are supported through foundation grants because of our name.

The story of the funding of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library starts with a look back in history. In 1899, The Midland Library was formed by 25 charter members each paying \$1 annually to check out books. In 1915, the City of Midland began contributing to the expenses of operating the library. The current library building was financed by the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation in 1950 at a cost of \$1.2 million. In 1954, the City Council adopted a resolution naming the library the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. Building expansion projects in the 1980's and 1990's were financed by grants from the Foundation in addition to city funds.

Today, over 80% of the library's funding is provided by the general fund of the City of Midland. The City Council recognizes the important role that the library plays in this community and is committed to continue and enhance library services to the community.

Have a safe and happy 2002!

Melissa Barnard

Events

Battle of the Books Briefing

Saturday, January 5
2 p.m., Auditorium, free

Teen Cram Night

Sunday, January 13
6-9 p.m., free
(Grades 9-12)

The Many Moons of Harvey Hirsch

Sunday, February 3
3 p.m., Library Lounge, free

"Read Across America" Family Seuss Night

Friday, March 1
6-8:30 p.m., Story Room, free



Dow Gardens and the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library Winter Gardening Classes

Team up with the experts at Dow Gardens and the resources of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library to help your gardening expertise "grow." These classes will be held in the Library with books on each topic available to check out - be sure to bring your library card!

Winter Tree Identification with Dow Gardens
Horticulturist Dan Veresh
Saturday, January 19
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Library Lounge, \$5

Plant Evaluation Summary with Dow Gardens
Horticulturist/Director Douglas Chapman
Sunday, February 10
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Library Story Room, \$5

Tree Pruning with Dow Gardens
Horticulturist Chuck Martin
Sunday, February 24
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Library Lounge, \$5

Call Dow Gardens at 631-2677 or the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library at 837-3438 for more information. Advance tickets are available at Dow Gardens or the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library.

Meetings

Library Board

Wednesday, January 16
Wednesday, February 20
7 p.m., Library Boardroom

Cable Access Advisory Commission

Wednesday, February 13
7 p.m., City Council Chambers

Teen Advisory Board

Saturday, January 12
Saturday, February 9
1 p.m., Library Lounge

www.midland-mi.org/gracedowlibrary
Email: gadml@midland-mi.org

January/February 2002

Spotlight on ...

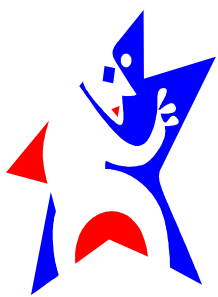
The Grace A. Dow Memorial Library was pleased to accept an original work of art from award winning Australian illustrator, Julie Vargas. Ms. Vargas has illustrated more than 10 children's books including: *The Very Best of Friends*, *The Nativity* and *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* (these books are available at the library).

The Diephouse Family commissioned the work in memory of their daughter, Meredith, who died suddenly in 1991 at the age of three. Meredith was a regular story time participant and loved coming to the library.



The plaque next to the illustration reads:

**This Julie Vargas painting is given by Celia, Gretchen, Jeffrey & Katie and their families in loving memory of Meredith Diephouse
Young friends who shared the adventure of many good stories.**



Time

Teen Advisory Board 2001-2002

Interested in having a voice at the library? Join the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) and speak up! TAB meets at 1 p.m. in the Library Lounge the second Saturday of each month during the school year.

Upcoming Teen Advisory Board Meetings

Saturday, January 12

Saturday, February 9

Need a quiet place to study for exams?

On Sunday, January 13 from 6–9 p.m., the library will be open to students only (Grades 9-12) for our annual **CRAM NIGHT**. Study with friends or on your own in the Quiet Room. We can't guarantee you an "A," but we will provide refreshments to fuel your brain. No charge, but bring your student I.D. to be admitted.

Teen Poetry Contest

This annual event will be held in March. Watch for details in the March/April issue of *The Library Connection*.

Corner

Brown Bag Book Club

Register for this fun book discussion and activity group! Pack a brown bag dinner (we'll provide dessert & a drink) and join us in the Library Lounge from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

January 22 - *The Egypt Game*
by Zilpha Keatley Snyder

February 19 - *Stepping on the Cracks*
by Mary Downing Hahn

Grades 4-5

Crafty Readers

Join us in the Library Lounge for stories, snacks, crafts, games and more! Register in Youth Services for one of three sessions: Tuesdays 4:15-5 p.m., Tuesdays 6:30-7:15 p.m., or Wednesdays 4:15-5 p.m.

January 8 & 9 – *Winter Fun!*

February 5 & 6 – *Bubbles, Bubbles, Bubbles!*

Grades K-3

"Read Across America" ~ Family Seuss Night

Celebrate the birthday of Theodore Geisel (better known as Dr. Seuss) on Friday, March 1st by reading! Join us in the Library for a fun evening of drop-in activities for the whole family from 6-8:30 p.m. in the Story Room. Enjoy the wacky antics of Thing 1 and Thing 2, Seuss stories, Seuss crafts, and Seuss surprises! No registration required.

All ages



Battle of the Books Update

The 22nd Battle of the Books is off to a wonderful start!

Upcoming Battle dates:

- ~ Saturday, January 5, 2-3 p.m. ~ Battle Briefing
- ~ Wednesday, January 16 ~ Team Registration Deadline
- ~ Thursday, February 14 ~ 1st Written Battle
- ~ Wednesday, February 20 ~ 2nd Written Battle
- ~ Saturday, March 2 ~ Oral Battle Day
- ~ Wednesday, March 6, 4:30-5:30 p.m. ~ Championship Battle - All teams are invited to attend the exciting battle and reception immediately following.
- ~ March 2-20 ~ Battle Banners will be displayed on the Mezzanine Gallery.

Questions? Call Youth Services at 837-3466



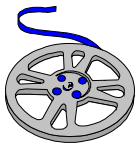
For Adults

The Many Moons of Harvey Hirsch

Join us on Sunday, February 3rd at 3 p.m. in the Library Lounge as Midland poet Harvey Hirsch reads from his newly published collection, *Pale Moon: Selected Poems*. Refreshments will be served. Copies of Mr. Hirsch's books are available at the library for checkout.

Classic Movies in the Afternoon

Free Admission! All movies begin at 2 p.m. in the Library Auditorium. Doors will open at 1:45 p.m.



- ~ ~ February 12 - **Casablanca** (1943) Romantic drama. *1 hour 43 minutes*
- ~ ~ February 26 - **Dial M for Murder** (1954) Mystery. *1 hour 45 minutes*

Books & Bites

Enjoy stimulating conversation and tasty treats at the inaugural meeting of the library's adult book discussion group on Thursday, January 17 from 7-8 p.m. in the Library Lounge. The group will be discussing *The Lost Legends of New Jersey* by Frederick Reiken.

The second meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 21 when *The Long Rain* by Peter Gadol will be discussed.

2002 Midland Writers Conference

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 8 when the Midland Writers Conference will feature speaker Homer Hickam, author of *Rocket Boy* (movie title - *October Sky*). Watch for details in the March/April issue of *The Library Connection* or call 837-3449 for more information.

Library Board

To fulfill a directive from the City Council to be a bridge between patrons and the Council, the Library Board will post a "Question of the Month" in the library.

The Library Board is looking for responses, ideas and suggestions from patrons so that it can make recommendations to the City Council that accurately reflect user opinion.

Watch for the question when you are in the library, and let your voice be heard! Board members are eager for input from users through e-mail or in person. Get Email addresses at the library or from the Library's website at www.midland-mi.org/gracedowlibrary.

Be a part of what's happening in the library as it moves through the twenty-first century!



Update

MCTV wants your blood!

The annual Ernie Wallace Memorial Blood Bank/City of Midland Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, January 10 from 2-6 p.m. in MCTV's studio located on the lower level of the Library. The drive will be cablecast "live" on MCTV 3 from 4-6 p.m. with host, Selina Tisdale and the Midland Public Schools Video Communications "ZOOM" class. Call 837-3474 for more information.

Dow Corning/USTA Challenger Women's Tennis Championships

MCTV volunteer producer Bob Granstra and his crew are scheduled to videotape the singles and doubles finals at the Midland Community Tennis Center on Sunday, February 10. Check the Midland Daily News Sunday TV Time for dates and times of cablecasts.



MCTV Network

Forum

A sincere thank you to everyone who helped make the recent Holiday Book Sale a wonderful success!



The **Spring Cleaning Used Book Sale** is coming in March - watch for details in the March/April issue of *The Library Connection*.

Friends'

For ongoing used book sales, upcoming events or for information on how to join the Friends of the Library call 837-3437 or log on:

<http://mindnet.org/~fogadml>

MEZZANINE GALLERY EXHIBIT - Second Level

- ~ ~ Wildlife Recovery Association Wild in Art Exhibit, January 13-27
- ~ ~ Midland Artists Guild 20th Annual Exhibit, February 1-28

LIBRARY DISPLAY CASES - Lower Level

- ~ ~ Military Display by Matt Kline, January 4-31
- ~ ~ Friends of the Library, 2000/2001 Kindergarten Book Giveaway Display, February 1-28

Grace A. Dow Memorial Library
1710 W. St. Andrews
Midland, MI 48640-2698
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"Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." Abraham Lincoln

Join us as we celebrate Black History Month in February. Take a look at our nation's past to learn more about the rich African-American experience through our display of books, music, and video performances.

Library Hours:

Monday - Friday.....9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday.....10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday.....1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
*Closed Sundays from Memorial Day weekend
through Labor Day weekend*

Phone Numbers:

837-3430.....General Library Information
837-3449.....Reference Questions
837-3457.....Check out, renewals, overdues
837-3466.....Youth Services
837-3474.....MCTV Network
837-3472.....TDD
837-3437.....Friends of the Library

Web Access:

Web Page: www.midland-mi.org/gracedowlibrary
Email: gadml@midland-mi.org

Library Director: Melissa Barnard

Tax Time at the Library

Federal tax forms will be available in the library after January 1 and Michigan tax forms (tentatively) after January 15. The library will also have reproducible forms that can be copied for 10¢ per page and access to tax forms on the Internet.

Tax Forms and Services on the Web:

www.irs.gov

www.treas.state.mi.us

Volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will be operating a "Tax Help Desk" in the Midland Room beginning mid-January for your tax questions. Check their posted schedule in the library or call 837-3449 for more information.



About this Publication...

The Library Connection is available at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library and is also mailed to interested patrons.

For more information or address updates, call (989) 837-3432.

The Library Connection is published six times annually by the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library.

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