

The

Library

Connection

From the Director

The Grace A. Dow Memorial Library salutes the vital contributions of our many volunteers during **National Volunteer Week, April 21-27.**

The seven member Library Board meets on the third Wednesday of each month to discuss important issues of the library. The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) plans programs and events of special interest to teens when they meet on the second Saturday of the month during the school year. The hard working Friends of the Library sponsor three used book sales throughout the year and staff the Friends Board.

Midland Genealogical Society members work with individuals researching family histories in the library's Midland Room weekday afternoons from 1-4 p.m. Members of the American Association of Retired Persons are available during income tax season to assist with general tax information questions. Volunteers help with the Battle of the Books program and the LITE Program (Libraries in Touch with Everyone).

Thank you to the many individuals who donate their time, expertise and enthusiasm to enhance the services at the library.

Melissa Barnard

Be Curious @ your library about:

Life and Humor... with the award winning Michigan author Thomas Lynch

Lake Superior... with a fascinating multimedia presentation

Magic... with an exciting Magic Show featuring a live bunny

Books... with a refreshing afternoon Tea & Book Talk

Music... with the lively steel drum band "Gratitude"

Poetry... with Café Muse & the awesome poetry of Midland teens

Mysteries... with a mysteriously delicious culinary Book Talk

Movies... with free popcorn and 25¢ video checkouts

History... with a visit to the Dow Homestead

Curious George... with a 60th Birthday Party and a visit from George



National Library Week April 14-20

Watch for details...coming soon!

Events

Battle of the Books Oral Battle Day

Saturday, March 2

Battle of the Books Championship Battle

Wednesday, March 6

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Library Auditorium

National Library Week

April 14-20

Café Muse

Friday, April 19

7-9 p.m., Library Lounge

Friends of the Library

Used Book Sale

March 15, 16, 17

Library Mezzanine

Meetings

Library Board

Wednesday, March 20

Wednesday, April 17

7 p.m., Library Boardroom

Cable Access Advisory Commission

Wednesday, March 13

Wednesday, April 17

7 p.m., City Hall

Council Chambers

Teen Advisory Board

Saturday, March 9

1-4 p.m., Barnes & Noble

Saturday, April 13

1 p.m., Library Lounge

www.midland-mi.org/gracedowlibrary

Email: gadml@midland-mi.org

March/April 2002

Spotlight on ...

Chapter-A-Day Online Book Clubs



Having trouble finding a good book to read? Too busy to seek out new books?

Together with the Friends of the Library, the library is presenting a new service—Chapter-A-Day OnLine Book Clubs. Join an OnLine Book Club and every weekday morning, you will receive a portion of a book via email. After reading two or three chapters you can finish the book by checking it out of the library. A new book selection begins each Monday morning.

It's a great way to preview a book and it's FREE! Choose from six clubs—Original, Teen, Business, Good News, Fiction or Romance. You can sign up for just one, or all six through the library's web page at:

www.midland-mi.org/gracedowlibrary

Questions? Call 837-3449



TIME

Teen Advisory Board 2002

The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meets the second Saturday of each month during the school year. The March meeting will be the annual book buying trip to Barnes & Noble on Saturday, March 9, 1-4 p.m. The April meeting is Saturday, April 13 at 1 p.m. in the Library Lounge.

Teen Poetry Contest: March 1- 31

If you are in Grades 6-12 and enjoy writing poetry, why not enter our annual Teen Poetry Contest? Guidelines will be available in Youth Services beginning March 1 with the winners announced at Café Muse, Friday, April 19 at 8 p.m.

Café Muse: Friday, April 19, 7 - 9 p.m.

Join us for refreshments and some of the best teen poetry of 2002. Winners of the annual Teen Poetry Contest will be announced at 8 p.m. with a reading of the winning poems (by the authors) to follow. Library Lounge. Grades 6 through adult.

Writer's Conference Teen Essay Contest: April 1-30

Midland County students (grades 6-12) are eligible for this teen essay contest sponsored by the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library and Matrix Midland. Students are asked to read Homer Hickam's book Rocket Boys and answer the following question:

"What obstacles do you see in your life and how can you turn them into opportunities?"

For complete details and entry forms, stop at the Youth Services Desk or call 837-3466.



Corner

Brown Bag Book Club (Grades 4-5)

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.

March 19 - The Landry News

by Andrew Clements

April 16 - Mr. Mysterious & Company

by Sid Fleischman

Crafty Readers (Grades K-3)

Enjoy stories, snacks, crafts, games and more in the Library Lounge! 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.

March 12 & 13 - Trickster Tales: Rascally Rabbits

April 9 & 10 - Hooray for Libraries

Battle of the Books Championship Battle!

Join us in the Library Auditorium for the exciting Championship Battle and Celebration Reception:

Wednesday, March 6, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Battle Reception immediately following

Free Kid's Movies for Spring Break

Movies are shown in the Library Auditorium:

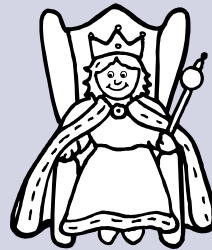
Wednesday, March 27, 10 a.m.

Mickey and the Beanstalk (29 min.) &
The Very Hungry Caterpillar (25 min.)

Thursday, March 28, 2 p.m.

Princess Diaries (115 min.) rated G

An adult must accompany children under age 11.



"Spring Things" Playgroup (Ages 0-5)

This collaborative playgroup is presented by "Success by 6" and the Youth Services Staff. Join us for stories, crafts, and snacks on Wednesday, March 20 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Story Room. No sign-up required.

Spring Story Times Sign-up begins March 1 for these six-week sessions that start the first week of April.

Toddler Time (ages 2 & 3)

Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.

Mondays or Wednesdays 7 p.m.

Preschool Story Time (ages 3-5)

Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.

Thursdays 7 p.m.



Questions? Call Youth Services at 837-3466

For Adults

2002 Midland Writer's Conference

Saturday June 8, Library Auditorium

We are thrilled to announce that our keynote speaker for the 23rd Annual Midland Writer's Conference will be

Homer Hickam, author of Rocket Boys (movie title: October Sky). Our other outstanding presenters include:

Paulette Alden: *Writing the Personal Memoir*

Terry Blackhawk: *Human Themes in Poetry*

Vivian DeGain: *Catching an Editor's Attention*

Shirley Neitzel: *Writing for Children*

Colleen Coble: *Inspirational Fiction*

The 2002 Writer's Conference brochure will have all the details! Stop at the Reference Desk, call 837-3449 or email ajarvis@midland-mi.org to be added to the brochure mailing list. Details are also available on line – just follow the Writer's Conference link on the library's webpage.

Books & Bites

The library's adult book discussion group is off to a great start! The first meeting in January was well attended with lively discussion and delicious snacks. Join us in the Library Lounge for these upcoming meetings:



Thursday, March 21, 7-8 p.m.

In Sunlight, In a Beautiful Garden by Kathleen Cambor

Thursday, April 18, 7-8 p.m.

Rocket Boys/October Sky by Homer Hickam

Classic Movies in the Afternoon

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

~ March 12 - Little Women (1933)

~ March 26 - Easter Parade (1948)

~ April 9 - Singin' in the Rain (1952)

~ April 23 - Arsenic and Old Lace (1944)



MEZZANINE GALLERY EXHIBIT - Second Level

-- Battle of the Books Banners Display, March 2-20

-- Chinese Art Display presented by 20 new Midland artists and Louise Chen, April 1-27

LIBRARY DISPLAY CASES - Lower Level

-- "Kids Helping Kids" UNICEF Exhibit by 2nd Graders from Bullock Creek, Pine River and Floyd Elementary Schools, March 1 - April 1

UPDATE

Be Curious @ MCTV during National Library Week!

MCTV's studio and production trailer will be open to the public during MCTV's **National Library Week Open House** on Saturday, April 20 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Enjoy a tour of Midland's only community television station and find out how you can become involved. Tape your special talent in "**5 Minutes of Fame**" and enjoy 5 minutes of performance time on camera. Call Ron Browne at 837-3476 to schedule your time.

The City of Midland's **Cable Access Advisory Commission** meets March 13 & April 17 at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. A special joint meeting with City Council is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 21 at 7 p.m. to discuss CAAC's role in the City's cable franchise negotiations.

Tune in to the **Council's Budget Work Sessions** April 15 & 29 at 7 p.m. on MGTV 5.

Orientation/Studio Classes

March 9 and April 13, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

April 8, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.



"It is no accident that books are sacred to civilization. They open the past to us. A book is magical; it transcends time and space."

Daniel J. Boorstin

Library Board

At the Library Board's January meeting, patron comments about the Question of the Month, "Would you be interested in a coffee bar in the library?" were reviewed and discussed. Responses were overwhelmingly in favor of pursuing the coffee bar idea. **Final tally: 438 Yes (85%) 75 No (15%)**



Although there were valid concerns and objections raised by patrons, the Board feels confident that many of these issues can be resolved. Therefore, the Library Director was asked to explore the feasibility of a coffee bar in the library.

The Board appreciates the time and thoughtfulness put into each comment and encourages the community to continue to voice their opinions on each "Question of the Month." Responses may be turned in when you visit the library or emailed to Board Members through the library's website. **Thank you** from your Library Board!

Grace A. Dow Memorial Library
1710 W. St. Andrews
Midland, MI 48640-2698
A SERVICE OF THE CITY OF MIDLAND

Change Service Requested

Library Closings

Friday, March 29
Sunday, March 31

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 Memorial Day through Labor Day

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

Friends' Forum

Friday, March 15,
6-8:30 p.m.

Friends Members only

(Sorry - memberships are not available Friday)

Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Open to the public.

Sunday, March 17, 1 -4 p.m. \$3 Bag Day (please bring your own grocery bags). Open to the public.

The Used Book Sale is on the Library's Mezzanine.
Call the Friends at 837-3437 for more information.

Used Book Sale!



Tax Forms & Assistance

Tax forms are now available at the library!
Trained AARP volunteers will be on hand to answer
your tax questions:

Mondays & Wednesdays

9 a.m. - 12 noon and 1 - 5 p.m.

Saturdays

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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.

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