



Capital Area District

**LIBRARIES**

Your branch, our family tree.

ANNUAL REPORT **2013**



## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR Maureen Hirten

In 1998, Ingham County's newly created district library opened its doors. So in 2013, we celebrated our 15th birthday! Whenever I talked to community members and mentioned this milestone, I heard stories. Some people remembered voting for the district library back then and were happy they did. Others had no sense of our history but enjoyed sharing their own experiences using our libraries.

Although our mission hasn't changed over those 15 years, our staff, administration and Board members all agreed that it could be expressed in an updated, livelier way. In the spring, the Board approved this revised mission statement: "*Empowering our diverse communities to learn, imagine and connect.*" It's short but gets to the heart of everything we do at CADL.

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# Empowering our diverse communities to learn, imagine and connect.

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We made some exciting changes in 2013, including a redesigned website and two freshly renovated libraries. I encourage you to review the accomplishments featured in this report, and look forward to even more in the coming year.

*Maureen Hirten*



# Capital Area District LIBRARIES

Your branch, our family tree.

## Board OF TRUSTEES



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# CADL TURNS 15!



The year 2013 was an important milestone in CADL history—it marked our 15th birthday!

In 1997, voters approved a plan to merge two existing library systems into a single one. On Jan. 2, 1998, the 13 branches of the newly-formed Capital Area District Libraries opened their doors, providing service to 23 different municipalities.



Since that time, CADL has become a vital member of the communities we serve, and a great example of regional cooperation. By sharing a single collection and other resources, we provide significant cost-savings for taxpayers. Shared resources also ensure that everyone in our district has access to the same services, no matter how big or small their community.

This year we celebrated our success with a series of exciting events, starting with a birthday party at every branch. Patrons enjoyed free cake and a chance to win movie passes courtesy of NCG Cinemas. Other events throughout the year included special

visits from storybook characters, a coloring contest, a trivia contest, an eReader giveaway, chances to win beach bags filled with books and other goodies, a birthday card-making station at Impression 5 Science Center and more.





# Website MAKEOVER



## OUR ONLINE BRANCH

It seems hard to believe now, but when Capital Area District Libraries was formed in 1998, we didn't have a website. That was before the Internet became the "information highway" we take for granted now. To use the library, patrons visited one of our 13 branches in person.

Today, an up-to-date, user-friendly website is an essential component of library service. In the spring of 2013, we gave ours a makeover. The new and improved **cadl.org** provides 24/7 access to a wide variety of services. It's another way CADL makes using the library easier, faster and more convenient than ever.

Since launching it in April, **cadl.org** has welcomed an average of 86,100 visits each month. Features include:

- An online catalog, allowing visitors to browse thousands of book, movie, CD and magazine titles at their convenience. With a click of the mouse, items can be placed on hold or renewed.
- Hundreds of free eBook titles and digital magazines, ready for instant download
- An expert reader recommendation service to help users choose what to read, watch or listen to next
- A detailed calendar of library events, searchable by branch, age group or event type
- Unique and detailed pages for each of our branches
- Daily blog posts that are chock-full of useful tips on topics like technology, business and parenting
- Free access to subscriptions and databases such as HeritageQuest and Consumer Reports



# Community INVOLVEMENT



Reaching far beyond the walls of our buildings, CADL's presence was felt across Ingham County in 2013, from grade schools to senior centers and everywhere in between.

Our community involvement included partnerships with local businesses and organizations, participation in service projects, attendance at local celebrations and much more. A few examples appear on these pages; many others are listed in the branch library reports on pages 16-28.

## CAPITAL AREA MICHIGAN WORKS!

Through our partnership with Capital Area Michigan Works!, CADL has become a vital member of efforts to support the area's un- and underemployed. A reference librarian regularly attends meetings of CAMW's career networking group to promote CADL resources and encourage job seekers to view the library as a place to find help and training.



## DELTA DENTAL OF MICHIGAN

A new partnership was formed in 2013 when CADL was approached by Delta Dental's charitable foundation, which focuses on supporting organizations that enhance the quality of life in our community. In February—National Children's Dental Health Month—we invited them to present oral health storytimes at six CADL branches, teaching basic dental hygiene habits to preschoolers. The kids especially enjoyed meeting their mascot, Marshall Molar.

Delta Dental also supported our Summer Reading initiative, donating 150 tickets to "Share a Smile Day" at the Lansing Lugnuts, plus 65 children's books for prizes.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD LITERACY COALITION

This volunteer committee is made up of local literacy, education and early childhood advocates, such as CACS Head Start and WKAR/Ready To Learn. Representatives from CADL participate in monthly meetings to network, share resources and discuss ways to promote literacy among area children. Each year during March, CADL partners with ECLC to host popular storybook characters at our branches. Our website serves as the public gateway to information for similar events throughout the area.



## IMPRESSION 5 SCIENCE CENTER

Partnering with the local science center always brings a blast of high energy to the library! In 2013, the talented staff at I5 created a special interactive exhibit just for us, big enough to draw lots of attention but small enough to travel among our branches. The theme was "The Sun," a perfect complement to our popular Summer Reading initiative. I5 also made room for a colorful mailbox and art space in their building, inviting visitors to create and "mail" a birthday card to CADL during our year-long birthday celebration.

## MICHIGAN LIBRARIES FOR LIFE

For the second year, CADL was proud to join an initiative that helps libraries spread the word about the critical need for organ donations. In Michigan, only 39% of adults are registered to be donors, far below the national average of 45%. From Oct. 7-14, eight of our branches served as sites for people to sign up with the Michigan Organ Donor Registry. The results: more than 400 people stopped by to check out donor information or share their own stories, with 61 of them registering on the spot.







# Community INVOLVEMENT



## MICHIGAN SECRETARY OF STATE

In July, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson visited CADL's Downtown Lansing branch to announce a partnership with libraries across the

state. The goal was to be sure that all Michigan residents have access to a website called ExpressSOS.com, which allows them to skip the visit to a Secretary of State office and do routine tasks online, such as renewing/replacing a driver's license or renewing a license plate. Anyone with a CADL card can access the site by using our public computers and high-speed Internet, available during open hours. Since one of our core services is to provide access to technology and online services, helping people connect to this service is a natural fit.



## MOVERS FOR MOMS®

In 2013, we partnered once again with TWO MEN AND A TRUCK® on their national campaign to provide personal care items to women in need. Starting in April, donation boxes and wish lists were placed in all 13 branches, and staff and patrons were encouraged to donate items such as soap, socks and pajamas. Just in time for Mother's Day, these

items were picked up by TWO MEN AND A TRUCK staff and delivered to local shelters, including the City Rescue Mission, C.A.R.E., Haven House and The SafeCenter.





## POTTER PARK ZOO

What better place to be than the zoo on a summer day? Once again, CADL was invited to participate in Potter Park's Zoo Days event, giving us a chance to meet families from all over mid-Michigan. We challenged visitors to a game called Read Around the Zoo, encouraging them to read exhibit signs and answer animal trivia questions for prizes. We also added a fun new feature this year—a photo booth! Everyone loved grabbing a prop and striking a pose in front of our colorful backdrop. Photos were available for viewing on our website the next day.

Then it was back to the zoo in October for their annual Boo at the Zoo event. Even our mascot Linc got into the Halloween spirit, dressing up in his superhero costume to meet fans and pose for pictures. Trick-or-treaters took home library stickers and bookmarks along with their candy.



## WRITE MICHIGAN

In the fall of 2013, CADL was invited to partner with Kent District Library, Schuler Books & Music, and Pooh Corner bookstore on the second annual Write Michigan project. The project encourages kids, teens and adults to explore the art of writing by entering an original short story in a contest. Winning stories were chosen by celebrity judges as well as the public, with cash prizes awarded to First Place, Second Place and Readers' Choice entries. Stories by the top 10 finalists in all age categories were published in an anthology produced by Schuler's Chapbook Press.

CADL promoted the project throughout our communities and on a special page of our website, where we also shared information about our collection, suggesting titles of short stories for all ages and a number of books on the craft of writing. We also contacted every school in our service

area, as well as homeschool groups, encouraging them to participate. The results of these efforts were very rewarding—the number of entries nearly doubled from the previous year, jumping from 551 to 888, and five of the 10 winners came from the Greater Lansing area.



*Congratulations to these winners of the 2013 Write Michigan contest: Chloe Lewis (Holt), Jackie Guzman (Okemos), Tyler Barnes (Lansing), Sarah Hoogstraten (East Lansing) and Mary Bonnell (East Lansing).*

# Our SPECIALTIES



Among CADL's core services are **Access to Technology**, **Expert Assistance** and **Access to Books, Movies and More**—some of the most popular reasons that people seek out their libraries.

In 2013, even with two of our largest branches closed for several months for renovations, we recorded more than 1.4 million visits. People came to use the computers, get help with school projects or job applications, and research their family history. They also checked out about 2.7 million items from our 13 locations and [cadl.org](http://cadl.org).



## ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

Rather than spelling the end of libraries, new technologies simply present another way CADL connects people to information and ideas. In fact, access to the Internet and free instruction on technology topics continue to be among our most popular services.

### *Public Computers*

In 2013, we recorded 222,153 hours of use on our public computers. The vast majority of that time was spent connected to the Internet, where patrons accessed email and social media sites, filled out job applications, worked on research projects and more. According to a Numbeo cost of living survey, Americans paid an average of almost \$46 per month for personal unlimited Internet service. Using library computers instead saved the average patron more than \$550 a year.

### *Wireless Internet (WiFi)*

This service continued to be wildly popular in 2013, as more and more patrons brought their own devices to the library. Several branches added many additional electrical outlets expressly for this use. Despite having two of our largest branches closed for several months of the year, we recorded 157,205 hours of WiFi use, a 54.4% increase over 2012.

### *Computer and Technology Instruction*

While many patrons still appreciated classes on the basics of email and Internet use, others were drawn to more specialized topics, such as Google Docs, Online Job Tools, and Downloading CADL eBooks. A popular trend at many branches was to provide personalized technology sessions. Rather than setting a schedule of classes, they offered one-on-one appointments at times convenient for each patron, on topics of their choice.

## EXPERT ASSISTANCE

A quote at [daringlibrarian.com](http://daringlibrarian.com) goes like this: "Who needs a librarian when you have Google? Well, who needs a doctor when you have WebMD?" In 2013, people continued to look to CADL for the most accurate information possible, provided by people with specialized knowledge and skills—and all just for the asking.

### *Digital Downloads Workshops*

As the popularity of eBooks continued to skyrocket, people came to the library in droves to learn how to use this technology. Staff offered expert, personalized assistance, encouraging attendees to bring their own smartphones, tablets, laptops and other devices.

### *BookSleuth*

It's no surprise that people depend on librarians for help finding the latest and greatest books, movies and music. At CADL, we call our recommendation service BookSleuth, because our literary detective tracks down all the best titles. Recommendations were available 24/7 on our website, during open hours in our branches, and during popular monthly sessions on Facebook and Twitter, where people interacted with BookSleuth personally.





## BOOKS

### Print

Print books make up the vast majority of our collection. In 2013, we offered nearly 470,000 of them. Laid end-to-end, that's over 70 miles!



### eBooks

The enthusiasm for eBooks shows no signs of slowing down—people love carrying books around on their tablets, eReaders and smartphones, or listening to them on MP3 players. Use of our eBook and eAudiobook collection rose to a total of 99,074 downloads in 2013—an increase of 29%.



### TumbleBook Library

Up until 2013, most library eBook users were adults. But in November, CADL began encouraging parents to check out our latest offering—TumbleBook Library for kids. Viewable on any computer, smartphone or tablet, this free service includes talking picture and chapter books, plus animation, puzzles, games, National Geographic videos and more. In December, our first full month of service, we recorded 568 book views.

## MOVIES

Fans of classic films as well as the latest blockbusters found plenty of titles to check out at CADL. In 2013, our movie collection included 77,740 DVD, BluRay and video copies. Our TV on DVD collection proved popular, as people checked out buzz-worthy series they had missed or chose not to pay for via movie subscriptions.

## ...AND MORE

### Digital Magazines: Zinio

Introduced in July 2013, our new digital magazine service was an immediate hit. Zinio allowed CADL cardholders to download and read full issues of 100 different titles, such as *O Magazine* and *National Geographic*. Issues are available immediately on their release date, with no holds or due dates. Between July-December, these titles circulated over 14,000 times.

### Magazines & Newspapers

Patrons love the idea of sharing magazine and newspaper subscriptions rather than purchasing their own. With 516 different titles to choose from in 2013, we offered something for every age and interest, from *Highlights for Children* to *The New York Times* to *NASCAR Illustrated*.



### Music

Music lovers continued to turn to the library to sample a wide variety of CDs. We added almost 5,600 items to our music collection in 2013. Items were checked out over 29,000 times, with rock, rap and country topping out as the most popular genres.





# Events to Inform

## AND ENTERTAIN

Our libraries hosted hundreds of free events in 2013, ranging from storytimes for our youngest readers to technology help for seniors. What did they have in common? Expert information presented in a welcoming setting—all for free. Highlights included author visits and several community-wide library promotions.



### #GetCaughtReading

Each year CADL presents special events during “March is Reading Month.” But in 2013, we took the celebration up a notch, inviting people to capture and share their personal reading experiences via photo. These could be submitted through Instagram or Twitter, using the hashtag #GetCaughtReading.



Pictures came in all month long, with people capturing not only themselves reading, but also their kids, co-workers, friends—even their pets! We added to the fun by going out into the community to get images of folks like Lansing’s mayor, on-air personalities from WLNS-TV, WILX-TV, WFMK radio, CADL staff, and even our own book-loving mascot, who got caught at local hotspots like NCG Cinemas and Biggby Coffee.



All the photos were featured on our website, with a few favorites selected to appear in printed ads in The City Pulse.

### #ShowYourCard

When it comes to value, there is no better deal than a library card. It means having free access to a huge collection of books, eBooks, movies and music, plus public computers, high-speed Internet and research tools.

To spread the word about this great deal, we partnered with local businesses to offer incentives during September, National Library Card Sign-up Month. Anyone who showed a current CADL card could get discounts at Famous Taco and Blondie’s Barn in Haslett, Biggby Coffee and Impression 5 Science Center in downtown Lansing, and Cravings Gourmet Popcorn in Old Town.

To make the deal sweeter, NCG Cinemas provided coupons for free popcorn to anyone who signed up for or renewed a card.



## AUTHOR VISITS

### Luis Carlos Montalván & Tuesday *Until Tuesday*



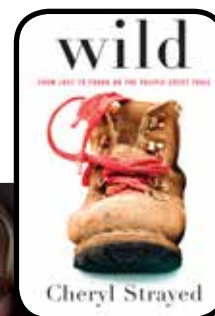
One of the most anticipated events of the year was a visit from former Army Captain Luis Carlos Montalván, the best-selling author of *Until Tuesday*. The book provides a first-hand account of his experiences in Iraq and of returning home after two tours of duty with traumatic brain injury and PTSD. Only after meeting a service dog named Tuesday did Montalván find a path to physical recovery and spiritual restoration.

Almost 180 people—and six service dogs—attended this inspiring presentation, held in September at the South Lansing branch. Special guest Tuesday amazed and delighted the audience with his mastery of language and commands. Following the event, adults and kids lined up for a chance to get books signed and to meet both man and dog.

### Cheryl Strayed

#### *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*

In CADL's first-ever "live via Internet" event, the author of the Oprah Book Club selection and New York-Times-bestselling memoir *Wild* appeared in May at the Haslett and South Lansing branches. Fans gathered at the libraries for a live Skype chat with Cheryl Strayed, stationed at her home in Oregon. Strayed talked about the weeks she spent hiking the trail solo, searching for a way to cope with her personal problems, and how the experience led her to unexpected answers. Signed copies of the book, obtained by CADL in advance, were available for sale.



### Mark Binelli

#### *Detroit City Is the Place to Be: The Afterlife of an American Metropolis*

Detroit native and current New York City resident Binelli visited our Downtown Lansing branch in May to talk about his Michigan Notable Book Award-winning title. Audience members heard about his vision of a Detroit that is smaller, greener, less segregated, more economically diverse and better functioning—a post-industrial city for the new century. Copies of the book, as well as Binelli's popular *Sacco and Vanzetti Must Die!*, were available for sale and signing.



# Events to Inform

AND ENTERTAIN



Every summer, CADL offers a free reading and entertainment extravaganza, otherwise known as the Summer Reading program. This initiative encourages children and teens to read for fun over the summer, helping reduce the loss of skills that can occur while school is out.

## Summer Reading

- \* experience
- \* adventure
- \* challenge

In 2013, nearly 6,800 participants signed up to keep track of their reading time and do reading-related activities. For the first time, many of those activities could be accessed online at our website. By mid-August, participants had logged in over 150,000 hours!

We added to the festive atmosphere with hundreds of family-friendly events, featuring live animals, magicians, storytellers, musicians and more.

None of this would be possible without the support of many local businesses who donated prizes and incentives. Special recognition goes to City Limits Bowling Center, Curious Book Shop, The Daily Scoop, Dart Bank, Delta Dental Foundation, EDRU Skate-A-Rama, Impression 5 Science Center, the Ingham County Fair, Jack and Jill Consignment

Boutique, Kean's, Leslie Area United Fund, Little Caesars, Pizanos, The Teacher Store, and Two Men and a Truck. Our Library Friends groups also offered generous financial support.





# Gathering PLACE

Throughout Ingham County, CADL offers welcoming spaces where people can gather, learn and share ideas. We also host a thriving online community, encouraging visitors to connect with us at their convenience, day or night.



## SOUTH LANSING BRANCH

Located near the busy corner of Holmes and S. Cedar Street, our South Lansing branch received a head-to-toe renovation in the spring. We celebrated with a grand re-opening event on April 29, which included a ribbon-cutting ceremony as well as tours of the building, refreshments, activities and giveaways.

Right from the beginning, planning for the project involved suggestions from the public. Head Librarian Michele Brussov explained that, "We were very conscientious about addressing patron concerns, and correcting shortfalls of the old design. We designed the library to match the way they want to use the space." Among the changes are a vibrant new children's section, an open and up-to-date computer space, and a quiet lounge area for study and for WiFi use.



The South Lansing community has embraced the bright new space with great enthusiasm, resulting in more visits, more checkouts and higher attendance at events. Much of the cost was covered under the terms of the City of Lansing's rental agreement with DTN Management Company. Other improvements were paid for from a \$20,000 donation made by the Friends group.



## FOSTER BRANCH

Thanks to fundraising by the Friends of Lansing Libraries, the Foster branch replaced a small, outdated circulation desk with a new efficient one.

## CADL ONLINE

More than ever before, CADL has made our services available to the public 24 hours a day. In 2013, anyone with an Internet connection could visit [cadl.org](http://cadl.org) to browse our extensive catalog, put items on hold, download eBooks and digital magazines, access research sites, read daily blog posts offering expert advice, find event listings for all ages, and much more.

They could also engage us in conversation, sharing their thoughts and ideas via tweets, Facebook posts, Instagram images, Pinterest boards and more. We look forward to exploring even more ways to connect with our patrons, fans and friends, in the places where they work and play.



# Transitions



## YOUTH SERVICES SPECIALIST

In January, Thais Rousseau was selected as Youth Services Coordinator, replacing outgoing specialist Lynn Harper. Thais was already a familiar face at CADL, having served as Head Librarian at the Dansville branch since 2007. Before coming to CADL, she worked as a Branch Manager for Jackson District Library. Duties in her new position include selecting materials for children and teens, coordinating the Youth Services Committee, overseeing the Summer Reading program, and managing special projects.

## DANSVILLE BRANCH HEAD

Melissa Cole was welcomed as Head Librarian at the Dansville branch in March. Prior to this assignment, she worked for several years as a library assistant at the Okemos branch. Melissa received her MLIS from Wayne State University and holds an MA in Literature from Northern Michigan University.



## BUSINESS OUTREACH LIBRARIAN



To fill this position, CADL selected Jessica Goodrich in November. Her duties are to create relationships with the business community, assist patrons with building job skills, and work with other staff to offer instruction and outreach activities. Jessica previously worked as a librarian at the Braille and Talking Book Library at the Library of Michigan.

## DIGITAL LITERACY LIBRARIAN

In December 2013, Erin Brzozowski was hired as CADL's Digital Literacy Librarian. Her previous experience was for Clinton-Macomb Public Library, Jackson District Library, and Kent District Library. Erin brings extensive experience in assisting both patrons and library staff with learning about digital collections and emerging digital skills.



## AWARDING EXCELLENCE

Named for a founding CADL Board of Trustees member, our annual service award honors a staff member who provides exceptional customer service or innovations. The Board was pleased to select Michelle Brussow to receive the 2013 McConnell Award.

As head of the South Lansing branch, Michele was instrumental in planning and completing an extensive building renovation, bringing creative vision and leadership to the project. She was also recognized for her dedication to the South Lansing staff and community.

# Friends of THE LIBRARIES

*“Words are easy, like the wind;  
Faithful friends are hard to find.”*

—William Shakespeare

Each of our 13 branches is supported by a Friends of the Library group, made up of volunteers who work tirelessly to raise funds and advocate for their libraries. They maintain used book collections, run book sales and other fundraising efforts, contribute refreshments for special events, and support library endeavors in dozens of other ways.

Friends group members also serve as advocates and ambassadors in their communities. They share the message with fellow citizens that libraries play a vital role, and that access to information and lifelong learning are at the heart of a successful community.

These faithful Friends serve as a strong foundation for our libraries, helping them grow and flourish. Anyone willing to donate time, energy and talent is welcome to join; information is available at any CADL branch or [cadl.org/friends](http://cadl.org/friends).

*Aurelius Friends*



*Leslie Friends*



*Holt-Delhi Friends*

*Webberville Friends*



*Okemos Friends*



**In 2013, our Friends groups collectively donated over \$29,973 to Capital Area District Libraries, enhancing our buildings, services and events.**





# AURELIUS



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**

**Jennifer DeGroat**



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Aurelius Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Connected with students at North Aurelius Elementary, hosting an assembly, staffing an information table at parent-teacher conferences, offering library cards to all second graders, and visiting to talk about our Summer Reading program
- Contributed monthly articles for the Ingham County Community News
- Partnered with Toys for Tots as well as Two Men and a Truck
- Provided support for a booth at the Ingham County Fair
- Shared events and information with Robbins United Methodist Church and Aurelius Baptist Church
- Presented our annual report to Aurelius Township, Onondaga Township and Bunker Hill Township



## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable for 2013:

1. Though our space is small and we have the fewest open hours of any CADL branch, our statistics were still impressive.
2. We hosted some very unique events, such as a Maker series that included Paper-making and Finger Knitting.
3. More than 1,000 patrons of all ages attended our Summer Reading performances, featuring live animals, a magic show and a theater production.
4. Our Friends group hosted a number of successful fundraising events, including a euchre tournament and book sales.
5. Santa Claus was a popular addition to our Holiday Open House, which drew 550 people this year.



## OUR THANKS

Thank you so much to our patrons, our Friends and our Township for all of your support this year. We could not offer so much to the Aurelius community without all of you!

# DANSVILLE



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Melissa Cole**

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Dansville Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Offered a project to members of Girl Scout Troop 30760, who created a "Play & Read" area on library property to earn their bronze award
- Staffed information tables at the Back to School Bash, Dansville Farmer's Market, and Ingham County Fair
- Reached out to area students by participating in PTO Reading Night; visiting classrooms to promote our Summer Reading program; visiting Freshman Fuel classes to speak about our digital collection and Youth One cards; and providing a weekly storytime at the preschool all summer
- Hosted the Turning Point Donkey Rescue at several events
- Contributed monthly columns to the Ingham County Community News
- Assisted in planning the Dansville Business Alliance's annual Halloween Party
- Attended a Downtown Development Association community meeting
- Presented our 2012 Annual Report to Ingham Township Board and Dansville Village Council

## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. This year marked the 25th anniversary of our 5th Grade Battle of the Books, a partnership with Dansville Elementary that provides a book trivia game to students.
2. Attendance at our Summer Reading events increased by 23%.
3. We saw continued support and growth for Coffee Chat, a weekly library program that gives community members an opportunity to connect.
4. Partnering with the Dexter Trail Questers, we presented a program on post-Civil War organizations for the Sesquicentennial.
5. We received a donation of a popcorn machine, which will be used to enhance a variety of library events.



## OUR THANKS

We want to thank our patrons for their enduring loyalty, and the Dansville Public Schools for being a steadfast community partner. We also greatly appreciate the generosity and support of Ingham Township and Dansville Village. Last but not least, special thanks go to the Friends of the Dansville Library for enhancing our services in a myriad of ways.

# DOWNTOWN LANSING



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Kathy Johnson**

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Downtown Lansing Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Provided job support information at Capital Area Michigan Works! on a monthly basis
- Staffed information booths at Capital Area Health Alliance's Choosing Health Rally, and at Greater Lansing Homeless Resolution Network's Children Connect and Community Connect events
- Recruited student tutors from Michigan State University to provide free homework help for grades K-12, plus a tutor for adults from the Reading People/City of Lansing
- Hosted visits from schools, daycare centers, Head Start classes, social service agencies working with refugees, and many more
- Worked on committees for Downtown Lansing Inc. and attended their monthly Business Huddle meetings

## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. We offered special Saturday events for families, including a Star Wars-themed party, pumpkin decorating, and a Take Apart Clinic featuring the Lansing Makers Network.
2. In partnership with WKAR-TV, we offered a PBS Kids Day that attracted over 800 parents and kids to the library.
3. We hosted an appearance by author Mark Binelli, a Michigan Notable Book Award winner for *Detroit City is the Place to Be*.
4. We offered a variety of free activities for over 1,500 people who visited during Silver Bells in the City.
5. We collaborated with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra to offer a series of family concerts.



## OUR THANKS

Downtown Lansing staff is very appreciative of the financial and volunteer support we receive from the City of Lansing, Friends of Lansing Libraries, and our loyal patrons.



# FOSTER



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Jean Bolley**



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Foster Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Provided storytelling for groups throughout the county, including Steele Elementary in Mason, St. Martha School, students at Fenner Nature Center and Potter Park Zoo, Early Childhood Literacy Coalition Community Event, City Market, Prime Time Seniors and more
- Worked with Reading is Fundamental by participating on the Advisory Board, hosting an event for Pattengill Academy students, and assisting at the Booksale and Theater Event
- Staffed tables at a Head Start event, Healthy Kids Day, and the Allen Street Farmers Market
- Worked with Lansing Parks and Recreation, reading every month to children in their After School Program
- Worked with Pattengill Academy to provide 6th graders with library cards and introduce them to the Foster Library



## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. Funds from the Friends of Lansing Libraries enabled us to undergo a mini-facelift, including new shelving in the children's area and a beautiful and efficient circulation desk.
2. Our library turned into a Maker Space for events such as Indoor Snowman Building, Valentine Making, Knitty Gritty, Flip-Flop Decorating, Crafting for Preschoolers, Creating with Duct Tape, Learning to Finger Knit and Making Bristlebots.
3. In September we held our annual Great Library Card Extravaganza to celebrate National Library Card Sign-up Month.
4. More than 100 children and adults enjoyed our annual Reindeer Visit and Holiday Open House.
5. We welcomed new members to both the afternoon and evening Book Discussion Groups

## OUR THANKS

We thank the Friends of Lansing Libraries for their support, and the staff of both Foster Community Center and the Lansing Department of Parks and Recreation for their cooperation. Thanks also to our loyal patrons for another great year, and to our flexible, good-tempered staff for continuing to provide excellent customer service in our limited space.

# HASLETT



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Ann Chapman**



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Haslett Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2013, our library staff:

- Reached out to senior citizens with a monthly book talk at Wynwood Assisted Living, a monthly book discussion group at the Meridian Senior Center, and a multi-generational mixer at Toddler Storytime that included residents of Okemos Health & Rehabilitation
- Staffed information booths at Meridian Area Business Expo, Meridian Senior Center Open House, and Ralya Elementary School Parent Night
- Read the Michigan Reads! One State One Pre-School Book (*Woolbur* by Leslie Helakoski) to 268 children in Haslett elementary schools, pre-schools and day care centers
- Provided a children's activity at the Meridian Winter Farmer's Market
- Partnered with the U.S. Marine Corp Reserves on the annual Toys for Tots campaign
- Brought live Summer Reading Kick-off events to Haslett Elementary Schools
- Collaborated with the Haslett Food Bank by providing a year-round food collection bin

## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. Over 7,000 visitors attended informational and transformational programs, resulting in a whopping 35% increase in attendance.
2. Our library was a site for CADL's first Skype video chat, featuring author Cheryl Strayed from her home in Portland, Oregon.
3. Patrons embraced our new personalized technology service, which offers one-on-one help downloading CADL eBooks to a variety of devices.
4. Events celebrating children's literature included *Charlotte's Web* and *Amelia Bedelia*-themed parties, as well as storybook character visits by Curious George and Spot the Dog.
5. We offered a variety of events designed for all ages, such as Bingo for Books, our annual Holiday Open House, a river paddling program with expert Doc Fletcher, presentations by fiber artist Jane Reiter, and a Taste of Japan event for students.



## OUR THANKS

Thank you to our loyal patrons, who so effectively accessed our leisure, technology and information resources—it is our pleasure to serve you! We also appreciate our Friends, volunteers, Meridian Township and Haslett Public Schools Facilities for enhancing library services for all.



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Jolee Hamlin**

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Holt-Delhi Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2013, our library staff:

- Collaborated with a range of community resources, including Gateway Community Services, Sam Corey Senior Center, Delta Dental, Two Men and a Truck, the Holt Community Foodbank, the Early Childhood Literacy Coalition, Kiwanis, Lions, the Holt School Business Alliance, Building 21, Oak Park YMCA, Greater Lansing Food Bank's Garden Project and more
- Participated in local events such as the Holt Hometown Parade, Kiwanis Halloween in the Park, the Holt Business Expo, the Lions Holt Community Kids Day, Harvest of the Arts, the Holt Farmer's Market and the Ingham County Fair
- Visited six schools to promote CADL's Summer Reading initiative, talking to more than 1,500 students
- Hosted a WITL remote and served as guest on WLMI Tim Barron's Morning Show, highlighting library services and value
- Teamed up with the South Lansing branch and Building 21 to offer a first-ever End of Summer Reading party for teens



## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. With a goal of securing a fiber network for the community, we worked to forge a contract between Holt Public Schools and our service provider.
2. We developed key sponsorships that resulted in financial support from the Holt Kiwanis Club, the Holt Lions, Meijer, Dart Bank, Tim Hortons, Sweet Sensations Ice Cream Shop, the MSU Dairy Store and Partners Book Distributors.
3. Program attendance increased by over 45%, drawing close to 8,000 library visitors.
4. Use of our self-checkout station increased by 6%.
5. We began offering personalized librarian appointments and proctoring services, to better assist computer users and students.

## OUR THANKS

Plentiful thanks go out to many groups for their support, including: Delhi Township for assisting the library to be its finest; our Friends, who are a small but mighty group of advocates and caretakers; our patrons, who are the best; several organizations that have provided financial support; and the staff of the Holt-Delhi Library, who offer nothing short of excellence.



# LESLIE



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Barb Keeler**



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Leslie Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2013, our library staff:

- Reached out to Woodworth Elementary and White Pine Academy with a variety of services, including: taking musical duo The Storytellers to schools to promote our Summer Reading initiative, sponsoring Michael Deren's Great Lakes Schooner Captain program, welcoming classroom visits, partnering with the Reaching Higher summer program, and more
- Participated in Leslie Chamber of Commerce as a member
- Helped promote CADL by staffing a booth at the Ingham County Fair
- Contributed monthly library columns to the Ingham County Community News

## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. We saw continued increases in both program attendance and library cards issued.
2. More than 25 talented community members stocked our showcase with fascinating displays, and presented expert information on topics such as iPad Tips.
3. Volunteers met regularly to create handmade items for Heartland/Hospice patients, resulting in more than 100 items donated.
4. We offered ongoing programs for adults, including Remember When and Book Discussion Group, as well as special events such as Rain Barrel Making, DNR Trails, and Equine Health.
5. Family-oriented events included Three Cheers for Snow, Spooky Stories Night and A Minute to Win It, while we added two new after-school programs for students.



## OUR THANKS

A great big thank you goes out to the Leslie Area United Fund, Leslie Public Schools and White Pine Academy, the City of Leslie and Leslie Township, our awesome Friends group, and our loyal patrons. Your continued support made our 15th year of service a very active and successful one!



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
Cheryl Lyons

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Mason Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Staffed booths at Spring Fling, Down Home Days, the Mason Women’s Expo, the Ingham Farm Bureau’s Project RED Rural Education Day, and the Green Acres Retirement Community Craft Show
- Delivered library presentations to the Mason Lions’ Club, the Mason Kiwanis Golden “K’s,” the Mason Optimist Club and the Mason Women’s Club
- Served as a worksite for specially-abled student volunteers from the Mason Public School’s CBI program
- Partnered with Dart Bank, whose staff raised funds to purchase books for our Pre-Reader Summer Reading initiative
- Offered library card registration at several Mason Public School events, including the 9th grade orientation and parent teacher conference night
- Provided an ongoing collection bin for patrons to donate goods to the Mason Food Bank, and served as a collection site for the Movers for Moms and Toys for Tots programs



## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. This year marked the 75th anniversary of library service at the building on West Ash Street. Patrons, members of the community and many former staff members came to enjoy a special event marking the occasion.
2. Brenda Ginther from the Wooden Shoe Herb Farm presented a program on Culinary Herb Gardening to a rapt audience of over 40 patrons.
3. Our Superhero Party was a success with over 35 in attendance in costume enjoying a scavenger hunt, snacks, cartoon shorts, a photo shoot, and superhero emblem craft. Capital City Collectibles was an excellent and generous partner.
4. Nearly 300 people attended our Holiday Open House, featuring live reindeer, a visit from Santa Claus and live jazz by Pianist Tony Viviano.
5. Staff worked with many generous local businesses to secure support for library events, including Pizano’s Pizza, Kean’s, Jack and Jill Children’s Boutique, City Limits, the Daily Scoop, several local pizza parlors and Bestseller’s Books and Coffee.

## OUR THANKS

The success of the Mason Library is due to a true collaboration between branch and CADL Administrative staff, the City of Mason, the Friends of the Mason Library, our volunteers, community groups and businesses, as well as the support and patronage of our users. Thank you.



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Betsy Hull**

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Okemos Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Coordinated a weekly evening storytime with the local Great Start program to promote literacy
- Helped staff a library booth at the Ingham County Fair
- Helped staff booths at the winter Meridian Farmer's Market, annual business expos for the Meridian Area Business Association, and Meridian Senior Center
- Provided 266 storytime visits to Okemos schools and the Edgewood Community Childcare center

## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. Our staff developed a Teen Advisory Board to facilitate teen programs at the library and to create displays for Reader's Advisory.
2. We hosted a summer chess league and provided instruction for beginning learners.
3. Tutors from MSU Center for Service-Learning & Civic Engagement provided homework help twice a week during the school year.
4. Staff developed a study time program in the Event Room for Okemos students to use prior to mid-term and final exams.
5. We provided local history programs, computer classes, a book group and a monthly documentary film at the Meridian Senior Center.



## OUR THANKS

Much appreciation is due to Meridian Township Facilities staff for their attention to the building, and to the Friends of the Okemos Library for their continued support of library activities. Thanks also to the residents who continue to fund the 13-branch Capital Area District Libraries system with their tax dollars.



# SOUTH LANSING



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Michele Brussow**

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The South Lansing Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the communities we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Attended festivals, fairs and school open houses to inform the community about the library's services, including Gardner Middle School, local Headstarts, Colonial Village Street Fair, South Lansing Showcase Community Fair & Farmers Market, Senior Activities Fair and more
- Participated in Potter Park Zoo Days, which draws thousands of visitors from across mid-Michigan
- Worked with ITEC of Lansing to provide a weeklong computer Game Design Camp for kids
- Partnered with the Michigan Humanities Council to offer entertaining arts programs
- Contracted with MSU Service Learning to provide free drop-in tutoring services to students in grades K-12
- Offered weekly personalized computer help to Lutheran Social Services' ESOL group



## OUR THANKS

We appreciate all the support we receive from our loyal patrons, the City of Lansing, Friends of the Lansing Libraries who generously help fund our programs, and our partners in providing educational resources for children: ITEC of Lansing and the South Lansing area school teachers and administrators.

## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. In April we re-opened our doors following a major renovation project that added a colorful children's section, an open computer space, and a quiet lounge area for studying and WiFi use. These changes have been hugely popular with patrons, resulting in an increase in both library visits and program attendance.
2. As a result of the renovation project, our collection was completely revitalized.
3. Our Book-a-Librarian service, introduced in 2012 to offer personalized help with computers and ebook technologies, doubled in attendance in 2013.
4. Over 1,200 people attended our summer programs, with 735 kids and teens registering to read for prizes. Collectively they logged over 6,000 hours of reading time.
5. The most anticipated event was a visit from war veteran Luis Montalván, author of *Until Tuesday*. Almost 180 people—and six service dogs—attended this inspiring presentation about Montalván's experience with his service dog, Tuesday.

# STOCKBRIDGE



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Paul Crandall**

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Stockbridge Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the communities we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Worked with dozens of community partners, plus the Chelsea Area Wellness Foundation and the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition, in a Community Read effort that involved several events and the distribution of 350 free books in the Stockbridge area
- Coordinated efforts with the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition, the Stockbridge Area Arts Council, Stockbridge Community Education, the Stockbridge Area Chamber of Commerce, The Sun Times, and over a dozen musical acts to bring live music to the open air market throughout the summer
- Partnered with the elementary schools in bringing assemblies to Smith and Heritage, bringing storytimes to Smith through much of the year, and judging a spelling bee at Heritage
- Partnered with the schools to bring a job-hunting interest assessment workshop to Adult Education students, using the Pure Michigan Talent Connect database
- Participated in the middle school's homework help program
- Partnered with the Friends of the Library and Stockbridge High School to sponsor and judge a twice-annual "This I Believe" essay contest

## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. Our staff presented scores of events for children, including a Dr. Seuss birthday party, visits from live reindeer, and storytimes with picture book characters Spot and Clifford.
2. We hosted personalized computer classes to help patrons learn such topics as Google Search, Email Basics, Microsoft Word and more in a one-on-one setting.
3. As part of the 2013 Community Reads project, we co-hosted a "Move More Day" that brought about 100 participants to the middle school grounds to enjoy outdoor bowling, soccer goal shooting, an interpreted nature walk, demos of Tai Chi and yoga, and performances by the Stockbridge High School marching band and the Flying Aces professional Frisbee team.
4. We partnered with Stockbridge Community Education and Backstreet Steakhouse and Seafood Grill to present the Great Artists & Ale Series, featuring local musician Gary Allen.
5. A new books-and-movies series premiered, pairing film screenings with related book discussions.



## OUR THANKS

Many thanks to our patrons, township, village, Friends group, the Stockbridge Area Community Fund, the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition, the Chelsea Area Wellness Foundation, Stockbridge Community Education, Stockbridge Community Schools, and all our community partners for helping to make 2013 so successful!

# WEBBERVILLE



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Peg Mawby**



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Webberville Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the communities we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Provided in-classroom instruction on the CADL website and databases for 6th-11th graders at Webberville Community Schools
- Staffed a table at Webberville Elementary's Back-to-School Night
- Hosted preschool visits to the library
- Visited elementary classrooms to read stories and promote library services
- Hosted performances at the elementary school by the Cooperfly Puppet Troupe to promote our Summer Reading Challenge
- Visited every elementary classroom on the last day of school to promote Summer Reading
- Provided onsite storytimes for local daycares

## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. We held our 2nd annual Dr. Seuss celebration for young readers and their families. Webberville High School Honor Society students volunteered to help with the games and activities, while Webberville Elementary School principal Suzi Slater was a guest reader. Each family received a Dr. Seuss beginning reader book donated by the Friends.
2. Our Down Memory Lane Reminiscers group enjoyed a talk and demonstration by Jack Worthington from the Michigan Barn Preservation Network. He showed slides of unique barns from around the state and displayed antique barn building tools.
3. We saw a noticeable increase in the attendance at our Summer Reading performances.
4. Kids were wowed by the Halloween magic performance of Jason Hudy.
5. A live reindeer visit plus crafts, Christmas origami ornaments, and home-baked treats provided by our Friends group combined for a successful holiday open house in December.



## OUR THANKS

We owe much of our success to the continuing generous support of our patrons, Leroy Township, The Village of Webberville, and the Friends of the Webberville Library.



# WILLIAMSTON



**HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
**Julie Chrisinske**

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Williamston Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the communities we serve. In 2013, library staff:

- Reached out to Williamston Schools with a variety of visits, both off site and in the library
- Were members of the Williamston Area Chamber of Commerce
- Marched in the Red Cedar Jubilee Parade and the Williamston Holiday Lights Parade
- Expanded outreach to senior populations with Reminisce programs and a program on identity theft
- Sponsored special performers at Williamston's Explorer Elementary
- Served as a testing proctor for area students

## THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2013:

1. Staff secured a grant from the Williamston Sunrise Rotary to create a Battle of the Books event for Williamston sixth graders, which included a visit from graphic novelist Mark Crilley.
2. We offered a full range of computer classes, including fundamentals for beginners, Advanced Facebook and eBook Basics, featuring the library's ever-expanding downloadable e-book collection.
3. Special events for teens included a Hunger Games Party, a Steampunk Jewelry Workshop, a Henna Tattoo Workshop, our summer Volunteer program, and more.
4. We encouraged creative play and imaginative participation with an ongoing LEGO® club and the annual LEGO® Building Challenge.
5. Families enjoyed a variety of free events throughout the year, including Bats in the Library, Saturday Retro Cartoons, College Planning 101, and high-quality Summer Reading performers.



## OUR THANKS

We are grateful to the City of Williamston, the Friends of the Williamston Library, the Williamston Community Library Foundation, our volunteers and our patrons for their continued support of the Williamston Library.

# Financials

## 2013

This marked the third consecutive year of substantial tax revenue losses due to falling property values. Annual tax revenue fell \$391,097 in 2013, bringing the three-year total to nearly \$1.4 million. Despite these losses, we have remained viable by continuing to find ways to reduce our operating expenses. In 2013, our annual expenses were \$9.8 million, representing a reduction from 2012 of \$363,000. Since 2009, we have been able to keep pace with our revenue losses by reducing our ongoing operating expenses by over \$1.6 million.

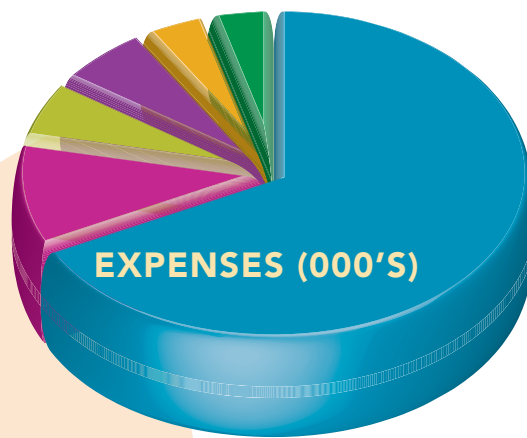
Although CADL continues to reduce operational expenses, we have not stopped making improvements to our facilities. Our annual expenses include a total of \$127,130 spent to complete interior renovations to our South Lansing and Okemos branches. Both projects were collaborations with municipalities, donors and Library Friends groups. We also applied for and received a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant of nearly \$75,000, which was used to replace 84 patron computers. Funding originally earmarked for this project was reallocated for other uses.

### GRANTS

- Universal Service Fund - \$86,730 was approved for 2013 Internet Connections, while \$12,712 was approved and received for regular telephone services.
- Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) - CADL received 84 computers, valued at \$74,256. This grant is funded by the federal government through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).
- Michigan Humanities Council - \$668 was received to fund Summer Reading programs
- National Endowment for the Humanities - \$1,000 was received to host a screening of the movie *Koran by Heart*, and to promote a discussion of the Muslim Journeys Bookshelf collection.

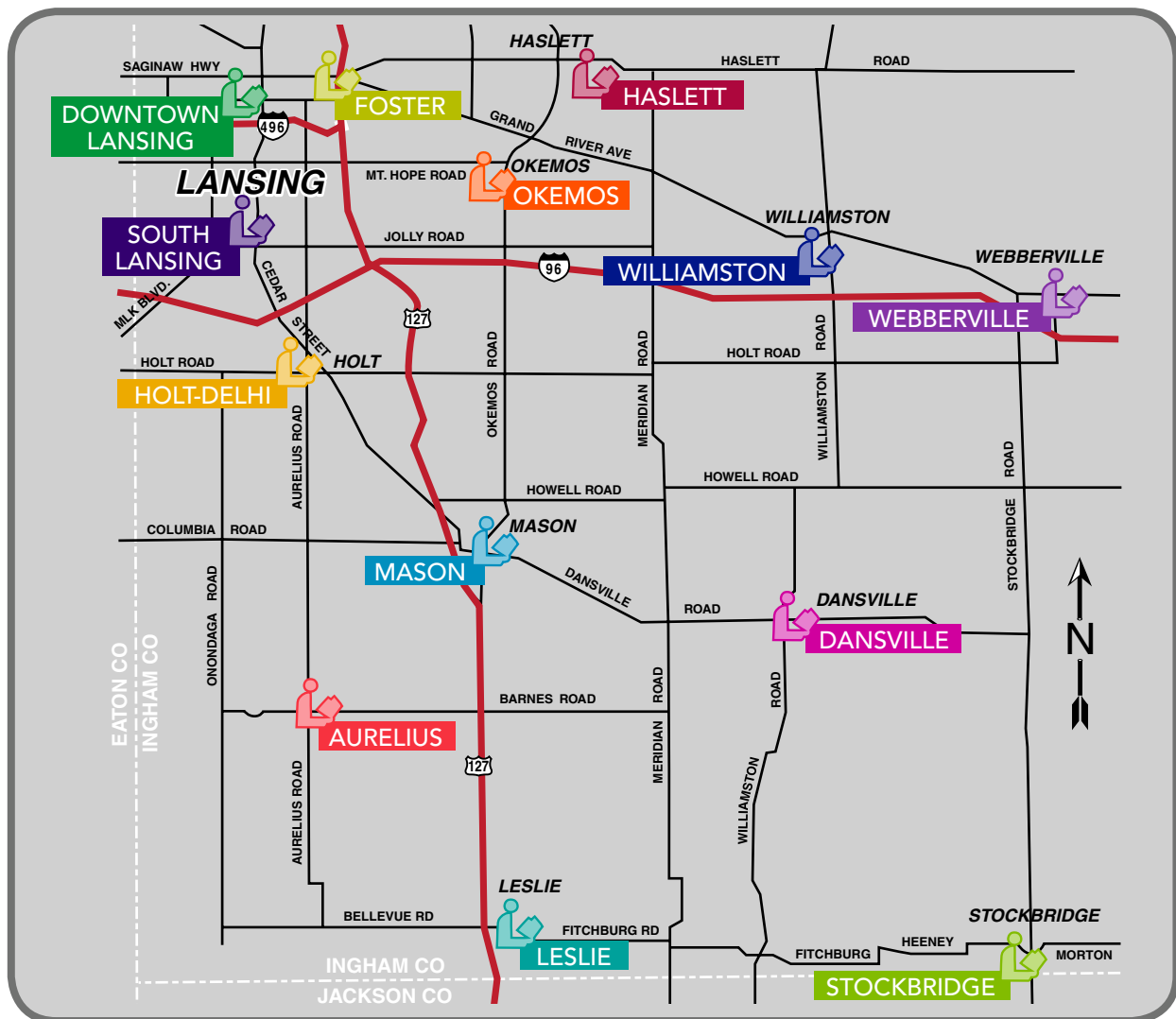
### OTHER MONETARY DONATIONS

IN 2013, CADL received total donations of \$45,165 from individuals, Library Friends groups, and other organizations.



Tax Revenue	\$9,348
Library Fees	\$315
Penal Fines	\$554
State Aid	\$119
All Other	\$290

# Library Locations



## AURELIUS

1939 S. Aurelius Road  
Mason, MI 48854  
517-628-3743

## DANSVILLE

1379 E. Mason Street  
PO Box 249  
Dansville, MI 48819  
517-623-6511

## DOWNTOWN LANSING

401 S. Capitol Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48933  
517-367-6363

## FOSTER

200 N. Foster Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48912  
517-485-5185

## HASLETT

1590 Franklin Street  
Haslett, MI 48840  
517-339-2324

## HOLT-DELHI

2078 Aurelius Road  
Holt, MI 48842  
517-694-9351

## LESLIE

201 Pennsylvania St.  
Leslie, MI 49251  
517-589-9400

## MASON

145 W. Ash Street  
Mason, MI 48854  
517-676-9088

## OKEMOS

4321 Okemos Road  
Okemos, MI 48864  
517-347-2021

## SOUTH LANSING

3500 S. Cedar Street  
Lansing, MI 48910  
517-272-9840

## STOCKBRIDGE

200 Wood Street  
PO Box 245  
Stockbridge, MI 49285  
517-851-7810

## WEBBERVILLE

115 S. Main Street  
Webberville, MI 48892  
517-521-3643

## WILLIAMSTON

201 School Street  
Williamston, MI 48895  
517-655-1191

## OUTREACH SERVICES

Bookmobile  
Books-by-Mail  
517-367-6308

\* These libraries are closed  
Sundays between Memorial Day  
weekend and Labor Day weekend.



Capital Area District  
**LIBRARIES**

Your branch, our family tree.