Did You Know. . .?

The Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped is here to serve you! We have a variety of materials and resources available for you or a loved one.

- Did you know that we have magazines on audio?
- Did you know that we have Audio Described Movies?
- Did you know that we have Large Print Books?
- Did you know there is a Sleep Button on your Talking Book Player that will turn itself off when you set it?
- Did you know you do not need to rewind your audio book when you are sending it back to the library?
- Did you know you can download your own audio or Braille books at home if you have internet access?
- Did you know we have Emergency Preparedness brochures in Large Print or Braille?

- Did you know we have a toll-free phone number: 855-203-5274?

Call us at that number or 586-286-1580 for further information!

Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Thursday</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 9 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday-Saturday</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday*</td>
<td>1 - 6 p.m.</td>
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* September-May

www.cmpl.org/mlbph
Winter Reading Contest

Here is some food for thought! Join our Macomb LBPH Winter Reading Contest, and you might just win a $25 Visa Gift Card! All ages are invited to participate.

All you need to do is call the library at 586-286-1580, starting February 2, and request a book whose theme somehow relates to food. If you cannot think of a choice, please see our list of suggestions below.

When you are finished with the book, call us by March 28, the last day of the contest, and we will enter your name in our drawing. One entry per patron, and we will draw two winners. Good luck!

Computer and iPhone, iPad Classes for Spring

Our computer tutor, Sharon, will be teaching one-on-one classes this Spring for patrons interested in learning how to use the computer with adaptive technology software. Such software includes ZoomText or JAWS on Windows 7 computers. ZoomText allows users to enlarge the text on the computer whereas JAWS reads what is on the computer screen to users. Computer beginners or those familiar with computers but have never used adaptive software, may want to register for these classes.

Also, Sharon will be able to show iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch users how to use VoiceOver technology that is present on those devices to assist in accessing the apps. This will allow you to get the most out of your Apple product.

If you would like to attend a one-on-one class, but are unable to find transportation to the library, certain classes by phone are also available. Please call us for more information or to register for March classes – 586-286-1580.

Lions Clubs of Michigan Scholarships

The Lions Clubs of Michigan offer student scholarships on a yearly basis. Students must be legally blind and provide verification, must be a resident of the State of Michigan and a United States Citizen, and either attending or accepted by an accredited trade or business school, college or university.

Please visit the Lions Clubs website: www.lionsofmi.com or call 517-887-6640 for further information.

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Winter Reading Suggestions

Adult Level - Fiction

*The Quilter’s Kitchen: an Elm Creek Quilts Novel with recipes* by Jennifer Chiaverini DB 68353 General Fiction

*Sweet Revenge* by Diane Mott Davidson (or any of this author’s Culinary Mystery series) DB 65348 Mystery

*Angels at the Table* by Debbie Macomber DB 75855 Romance

*Happy Birthday* by Danielle Steel DB 73657 Romance

*Scarlet Feather* by Maeve Binchy DB 51764 General Fiction

*Toxin* by Robin Cook DB 46224 Mystery/Suspense

*Hotshot* by Julie Garwood DB 77358 Romance/Suspense

*Chocolat* by Joanne Harris DB 49086 Modern Writing/Psychological Fiction

*The Corsican Caper* by Peter Mayle DB 78861 Mystery

Adolescent Level - Nonfiction

*Under the Tuscan Sun: at Home in Italy* by Frances Mayes DB 44847 General Nonfiction

*Stealing Buddha’s Dinner* by Bich M. Nguyen DB 69401 Biography

*Lunch in Paris: A Love Story, with Recipes* by Elizabeth Bard DB 73427 Biography

*Julie and Julia: My Year of Cooking Dangerously* by Julie Powell DB 69563 General Nonfiction

*The Pioneer Woman Cooks: Recipes from an Accidental Country Girl* by Ree Drummond DB 72395 Cooking

*Big Russ and Me: Father and Son, Lessons of Life* by Tim Russert DB 58298 Autobiography

*The Taste of War: World War II and the Battle for Food* by E. Collingham DB 76655 Nonfiction/World War II

Youth Level Fiction

*Survival* by Gordon Korman DB 78615 Grades 5 to 8 and older

*Like Bug Juice on a Burger* by Julie Sternberg DB 76680 Grades 2 to 4

*Farmer in the Sky* by Robert Heinlein DB 24747 Grades 6 to 9 and older

*Farewell, My Lunchbag* by Bruce Hale DB 54319 Grades 3 to 6

*Crocodile Tears* by Anthony Horowitz DB 70121 Grades 6 to 9

Youth Level Nonfiction

*What the World Eats* by Faith D’Aluision DB 67687 Grades 6 to 9

*Chew on This* by Eric Schlosser DB 62925 Grades 6 to 9

*What’s Cooking? The History of American Food* by Sylvia Whitman DB 54641 Grades 6 to 9
Assistive Technology Demonstration

There are many products on the market that are available to aid people with vision issues. If you are looking for a product or have a product you would like to donate, you may want to check out the Michigan Disability Rights Coalition’s ATXchange website: https://atxchange.org. Per the website, “the ATXchange is a place where people with disabilities, family members, friends and others can sell or donate used assistive technology devices. You can also list items you need.”

Also, for financial information, see The Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund webpage at http://ucpmichigan.org/at/loan-funds/michigan-assistive-technology-loan-fund/. Per this website, “the Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund allows people with disabilities and seniors (or their family members) to purchase assistive technology devices or services, including modification of vehicles and homes. Loans may also cover cost of training to use the purchased equipment, warranties, and service agreements.”

Your Macomb Library for the Blind also offers in-house use of computers that have ZoomText (screen magnifier software) and JAWS (screen reader software) installed and a Braille Embosser on which you can print out personal messages or similar types of written communication in Braille.

In the future, we plan on scheduling personalized demonstrations of various other devices at the library. Please call us at 586-286-1580 if you would like to be put on a waiting list for demonstration programs.

Macomb Blind Bowling League

The Macomb Blind Bowling League offers fun and friendship for visually impaired, blind, and sighted bowlers. The group meets on Wednesdays from 11:30 am until 3:00 pm at Fraser Lanes. The cost is $10 per week. Besides bowling, there are 50/50 raffles, mystery jackpots, and an end of season banquet.

The league is sponsored by eight different Lions Clubs. Sighted persons are also invited to join in the fun of bowling and to help with scorekeeping and pin placement.

To join and to get information on transportation to Fraser Lanes, please call Nathan at 586-296-2675.
Book Discussion Group by Phone

In our last newsletter, we introduced our latest program, a book discussion group by phone. If you have always wanted to join a book discussion group, but never had a way to meet at your local library, now is your opportunity to be in a discussion group without having to leave the comforts of home.

Our group meets on the first Monday of the month, excluding holidays. We call members up and patch them into a conference call. The discussion usually lasts between 60 to 90 minutes.

If you are interested in joining or learning more, just call us at 586-286-1580. We will let you know what the next book title is that the group is reading, and send the audio version out to you by mail. It’s as easy as that!

New! Currency Reader

The National Library Service for the Blind & Physically Handicapped has partnered with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) in support of its U.S. Currency Reader Program, which will provide currency reader devices, free of charge, to eligible individuals who are blind or visually impaired. The program is part of the U.S. government’s Meaningful Access Initiative to assist individuals who experience difficulties identifying U.S. currency.

The currency reader, called the iBill Talking Banknote Identifier, is a compact device that announces a note’s value in one of three ways: voice, pattern of tones, or pattern of vibrations. Just insert a currency bill into the device and press the button on the side to have the denomination identified. The currency reader does not identify foreign or counterfeit banknotes. The size of a key fob, it can be carried in a pocket or purse, clipped to a belt, or attached to a keychain or lanyard. It operates on a single AAA battery, which typically lasts for more than a year. The initial battery is included.

To pre-order, patrons may call the Macomb Library for the Blind at 586-286-1580. A currency reader will be mailed Free Matter to the patron’s on-file address when the devices become available. Patrons who originally registered as a blind or visually impaired reader are eligible.
Reader Recommendations

William Kallao recommends *Pictures of You* by Caroline Leavitt. Photographer Isabelle crashes into April’s stopped car on a foggy road, killing April but sparing April’s son, Sam. April’s grieving husband doesn’t understand why his wife was three hours from home with a suitcase—or why Sam is drawn to traumatized Isabelle. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. William says the book was just phenomenal. This is a suspenseful book with a realistic look at relationships. **DB 75565**

Rita Taylor recommends *The Ezekiel Option* by Joel C. Rosenberg. While U.S. forces down a hijacked plane and assassins kill the Palestinian prime minister, Russian radicals execute a coup during which CIA agent Erin McCoy disappears. Erin’s fiancé, presidential advisor Jon Bennett, tracks Erin and uncovers a Biblical verse predicting apocalypse. Sequel to *The Last Days* (RC 57970). Violence. Rita says this story has nonstop action from the very first page to the very end. Rita has listened to it four times! **DB 61947**

Rita also liked *The Harbinger* by Jonathan Cahn. Journalist Nouriel Kaplan is approached by a prophet who warns him about the coming downfall of America. Kaplan learns of nine prophesies that were revealed to the ancient Israelites before their country’s destruction and sees that the same signs are now manifest in the United States. Rita comments that you will never think of 9/11/2001 the same after reading this book. **DB 76704**

Rita also says to try *The Walk* by Richard Paul Evans. Seattle advertising executive Alan Christoffersen has everything—until his beloved wife dies, his business partner steals their clients, and his house is repossessed. Alan decides to walk across America to Key West, Florida, in search of new meaning while keeping a journal and befriending people along the way. Rita highly recommends this book as well as the author’s entire Walk series in sequence. **DB 71348**

Clinton-Macomb Public Library Staff Picks

The staff pick of books below were culled from Clinton-Macomb’s Chapter One Book Talking Program.

*Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can’t Stop Talking* by Susan Cain. Author explores introversion from a cultural point of view. Posits that as many as half of Americans are introverts, even as society promotes what she calls the "extrovert ideal." Examines the differences between the two personality types. Suggests ways to nurture "quiet" children. **DB 74307**

*Continued on next page...*
Sister Mother Husband Dog, Etc. by Delia Ephron. A series of autobiographical essays about life, love, writing, movies, and family. In "Sister" the author explores the rivalry, mutual respect, and intimacy that comprised her relationship with her older sister and frequent writing companion Nora, who died in 2012. Some strong language. DB 77334

Vertigo 42 by Martha Grimes. At high-rise London bar Vertigo 42, Superintendent Jury meets Tom Williamson, who is convinced his wife, Tess, was murdered seventeen years ago. Tess's death was ruled an accidental fall caused by vertigo. A young girl's similar fall at a party hosted by Tess may be connected. Some strong language. DB 79321

The Arsonist by Sue Miller. Feeling unmoored after working in East Africa for fifteen years, Frankie Rowley has come home to the small New Hampshire village of Pomeroy and the farmhouse where her family has always summered. On her first night back, someone begins burning down summer houses. DB 78858

Still Midnight by Denise Mina. When three armed men invade a quiet Glasgow home and demand audience with a person who does not live there, Alex Morrow investigates their apparent mistake, a situation that escalates as violent acts are committed against the hostages. DB 72533

Secret Keeper by Kate Morton. England. In the 1960s teenager Laurel Nicolson witnessed her mother Dorothy stab a man to death. Decades later Laurel, now a renowned actress, visits her senile ninety-year-old mother and begins to research the matriarch's complicated past. DB 75668

The Returned by Jason Mott. Harold and Lucille Hargrave are visited by a man from the Bureau and their long-dead eight-year-old son, Jacob. All over the world, people are mysteriously returning to life. DB 77460

State of Wonder by Ann Patchett. Vogel Pharmaceutical sends pharmacologist Marina Singh to Amazonian Brazil to locate elusive employee Dr. Annick Swenson, who was once Singh's professor. While investigating the status of Swenson's fertility-drug research, Singh also hopes to uncover the fate of colleague Anders Eckman, whom Swenson reported dead. Some strong language. DB 73464

Still Life With Bread Crumbs by Anna Quindlen. Sixty-year-old Manhattan photographer Rebecca Winter, once renowned for her work with everyday objects, is now broke and moves to a cabin in upstate New York. Rebecca refills her coffers by photographing items found in nature and regains peace by flirting with roofer Jim Bates and adopting a dog. DB 78255
Macomb Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped is a public service of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.

**Clinton-Macomb Public Library Programs**

**Music at Main**
Join us for a free hour of music open to all ages. The Friends of the Library will also be on hand to sell the best of their used books to support programs such as the concert series.

**Sunday, February 8 at 2 p.m.: Jump Street Light**. This five-piece band will bring a slew of catchy standards and old-time ballads to the library for all ages to enjoy.

**Sunday, March 1 at 2 p.m.: Crossroads**. Crossroads performs various styles of music, including jazz, blues, funk and contemporary. The combination of a family band consisting of children and adults, will undoubtedly make your day!

**Henry Ford: His Life and Times**
Mon., Feb. 2 at 6:30 p.m. • Main Library
Henry Ford spent much of his life making headlines, good, bad, but never indifferent. Learn about his life, his inventions, his family, the positive and more controversial aspects of his strong personality, and some of the ways he changed the world.

**History of Olde Ireland**
Mon., Mar. 2 at 6:30 p.m. • Main Library
Saint Patrick’s Day is on the horizon and we’re offering a lecture with storyteller Maureen Esther on Ireland. This lecture covers pre-historic Ireland with its Monolithic Tombs, to Titania’s Palace, built for the Queen of the Fairies.