North Branch To Open This Summer

The North Branch of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library will open this summer, probably by July 1. The North Branch will occupy a 14,000-square-foot space being leased on 24 Mile Road across the street from Lutheran High North and just west of Romeo Plank in Macomb Township. This is about double the size of the recently opened South Branch on Gratiot Avenue and almost four times the size of the temporary Main Library on Garfield Road.

More than $500,000 worth of new books, videos, magazines, newspapers, audiobooks, CDs and DVDs have been ordered for the North Branch. Orders for furniture and shelving are now being placed, and staff will be hired and trained early this summer.

The North Branch (just like the temporary Main Library and the South Branch) will deliver high-demand library materials, the newest technology, and outstanding customer service and convenience. Library customers coming to the North Branch will find:

- 15 public computers with the library’s catalog, full-text magazine and newspaper databases and Internet access.
- Comfortable lounge chairs where you can sit and connect your own laptop to the library’s network and access library databases and the Internet.

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Express checkout — put your materials on one end of a conveyor belt and pick them up at the other end, checked out for you!

- 24-hour pick-up of library materials. You will be able to request that library materials be placed in special 24-hour pick-up boxes outside the building.
- 24-hour book return.
- A meeting room that will hold 100 people and will be home to the library’s larger programs. Children’s programs, which are aimed at smaller audiences, will be held in the children’s picture book area.
- A “star-studded” children’s area with a futuristic theme and furniture that is designed especially for children. Puppets, picture books, and book/cassette kits will all be available.
- A special section of seating for teens near the Young Adult Collection.
- A small group study room.
- A café/eating area, which is a new trend in public libraries. Vending machines will provide beverages and snacks that can be eaten in the café area. You’ll be able to enjoy a soft drink or a cappuccino while reading or studying in the library!

The Clinton-Macomb Public Library is committed to offering the best services, materials and facilities to all residents of the library’s service area. The North Branch is certain to become the newest star in the CMPL system.

Watch the progress of the North Branch by checking the library’s Web site at: www.cmpl.org/north

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Clinton-Macomb Public Library - North Branch

The entire collection at the North Branch will be new. The books, magazines, audiobooks, CDs and other materials have been carefully selected with the needs and interests of library customers in mind.

The North Branch will be open:
- Monday - Thursday: 9 AM - 9 PM
- Friday & Saturday: 9 AM - 6 PM
- Sundays (Sept - May): 1 PM - 6 PM

Watch for information (early this summer) about the grand opening of the North Branch!
From the Director  by Christine Lind Hage

Our assistant director, Larry Neal, overheard a customer at the South Branch say, “A new library is like finding a $100 bill on the sidewalk!” It is always nice to receive a compliment from a library user, especially when it follows a project that the library staff has been working on for so long.

This past year has truly been remarkable, and it is a pleasure to share with you the following successes:

◆ The 7,400-square-foot South Branch on Gratiot Avenue between 15 and 16 Mile Roads opened in August.
◆ An entirely new collection of 28,000 items—including books, videos, CDs, DVDs, puppets, periodicals, and book/cassette kits—was available on opening day.
◆ The library began offering Sunday service at the South Branch from the Sunday after Labor Day until Memorial Day.
◆ The South Branch is the first library in Michigan where self-checkout is used for all library materials. Customers really like it, as they checked out over 47,000 items in the first three months of operation!
◆ The entire collection at the temporary Main Library (Garfield and 19 Mile) was reviewed and re-stocked with new materials. Total collections for both branches now exceed 68,000 items, more than double what was available last year.
◆ Circulation more than doubled from last year with 245,240 items being borrowed from the library. When many libraries are noticing a drop in circulation, your library led the state in circulation growth!
◆ A 10-year lease has been signed for the new North Branch, which is located on 24 Mile Road and scheduled to open early this summer.
◆ An architect has started to design the new Main Library (Romeo Plank and Canal Road), which is scheduled to open in 2003. When completed, the Main Library will be the largest public library in Macomb County.
◆ The library introduced two new types of materials: DVDs and e-books. The CMPL was the first library in Macomb County to loan e-books.
◆ The library has experienced an explosive increase in the use of the Internet with 13,529 sessions occurring in 2000 compared to 3,515 the previous year.
◆ Program attendance (author talks, story times, craft activities and cultural programming) grew by 336% with a total of 3,013 people attending library programs in the past year.
◆ National Library Card Sign-Up Month (September) was celebrated when the librarians visited every second grade classroom in the library district to sign up kids with new library cards. Library card registration now stands at 11,840.
◆ The Library Board adopted a master facilities plan that details facility needs for the next 10 years.
◆ Summer Reading Club participation increased by almost 300% when 910 children signed up and participated during the summer of 2000.
◆ The first issue our first district-wide newsletter (this is the second issue now called Library Matters) was published and mailed to all residents.

It truly has been a landmark year for CMPL. While we’d love to bask in the glory of a successful year, it is essential that we focus on our bright future. With the anticipated opening of our North Branch and planning for our new Main Library, we hope to make our library the best in Michigan. We owe it you, and you deserve it because in Macomb and Clinton Townships your Library Matters!

A world of information — FREE!

Books, audiobooks, videos, CDs, DVDs, magazines, newspapers, reference materials, information specialists—you have access to all this and more with your Clinton-Macomb Public Library card.

Getting your library card is as easy as 1-2-3!

1. If you live or work in Clinton or Macomb Townships, you are eligible for a library card. (Residents of Clinton Township who live within the Mount Clemens School District may use their Mount Clemens Public Library card.)
2. Bring one piece of identification (driver’s license, rental agreement, utility bills addressed to you, voter registration card, etc.) to the library.
3. Complete an application form. You will get your library card on the spot! On your first visit, you may borrow up to three items. After that, there is no limit to how many items you may borrow. If you are a resident of Clinton or Macomb Townships, your library card is valid for three years, and it entitles you to borrow materials from all other public libraries in Macomb County, the Troy Public Library in Oakland County, and the Harper Woods Public Library in Wayne County.

If you are interested, you may request a free MichiCard sticker for your library card. This entitles you to borrow materials from many libraries all over the state. Come in soon and get “carded” at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library. Once you have a card, you won’t want to leave home without it.

Find a library card application online at:
www.cmpl.org/service/circ/librarycards.htm
Main Library Construction Planned

Construction on the CMPL Main Library will begin during spring 2002. The two-story, 70,000-square-foot facility, which will serve the 150,000 residents of Macomb and Clinton Townships, is scheduled to open in 2003. The building will be designed to accommodate future additions, if necessary.

The architectural firm of TMP Associates, which has designed a number of libraries in the Metro Detroit area, has been hired to design the Main Library. Initial design concepts are complete, and the construction drawings are now being developed.

Thanks to a generous gift of property from Clinton Township, the new Main Library will be built on the southeast corner of Romeo Plank Road and Canal Road in Clinton Township. When finished, the Main Library will be the largest public library in Macomb County.

Special features include a large meeting room for 150 people, two smaller conference rooms, space for a collection of about 300,000 items and a café. The Children’s Department will have its own program room that will help contain the sound of young children as they create and learn through reading, art and other activities.

A floor plan for the Main Library will be included in a future newsletter. The goal of the Library Board is to build a library that will please and amaze people while providing top quality services and housing a fresh and vital collection of materials.

Visit the Library’s Virtual Branch

CMPL isn’t just busy constructing “bricks and mortar” libraries, we are also well on our way to creating a high-quality virtual library branch. As part of our commitment to the residents of Clinton and Macomb Townships to make library services available around the clock, seven days a week, we have created a Web site available at www.cmpl.org.

At this “Virtual Branch,” you will find the library’s catalog, as well as useful information about the library, including events, services, location, and hours. Go to the Web site for free access to subscription databases, including full-text magazine and newspaper articles not available elsewhere on the Internet (please note a library card is required).

In addition, you’ll find links to information resources that have been carefully chosen by our professional librarians for their usefulness and appropriateness. The Web site also is a great starting point for younger Internet users as they search for homework and entertainment resources.

The library’s Web site is a great place to watch the progress of our library construction projects. Follow the North Branch as it develops step by step at www.cmpl.org/north, and watch for news about the Main Library’s groundbreaking.

This is just the beginning! CMPL will continue to bring you new and improved services to better meet your information needs. We soon will offer real-time reference—where you can chat with a professional librarian—a greatly improved Web-based library catalog that resembles Amazon.com, and more.

Visit the library’s Virtual Branch soon at www.cmpl.org
Tips to Parents: How to keep your children reading

- Talk with your children about what they are reading. This will give you insights into their interests.
- Have a special shelf at home for library materials.
- Ask your librarian for suggestions of age-appropriate and interest-appropriate materials, and make sure your child is comfortable asking a librarian for help.
- Challenge your child with good literature and a variety of authors.
- Read aloud to your family at home, in the car, anywhere!
- Encourage a variety of reading behaviors. Magazines, comics and CD-ROMs may be more appealing for some readers.
- Establish a family routine of going to the library on a regular basis.
- Read. Be a positive role model—let your child see you reading for pleasure.

Spring sessions begin the week of March 12 and meet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for six weeks.

Pre-school story time at the Main Library:
- Wednesdays at 10:30 AM and again at 1 PM.
- For children 3 1/2 - 5 years old.
- Registration is required and begins Monday, February 19; registration continues until all spaces are filled.

Drop-in story time at the South Branch:
- Tuesdays at 10 AM and Wednesdays at 1 PM.
- No registration is required. Parents are always welcome to join their child; an adult must accompany children under 3 years old.

Authors to visit the library

March is Reading Month! To celebrate, the Clinton-Macomb Public Library will host several programs by children’s authors.

March 8 — John Thomas at the Main Library, 7 PM
- Mr. Thomas grew up in Mount Clemens and graduated from L’Anse Creuse High School. Now an actor in New York, Thomas recently published his first book, Bindi Bindu and the Lost Turban, which blends music and humor into a fanciful adventure.

March 22 — Denise Brennan-Nelson at the South Branch, 7 PM

March 28 — Vicki Cobb at Cheyene Elementary School, Macomb Twp., 7 PM
- Ms. Cobb will present an interactive program for children and parents. A firm believer that science can be fun, Ms. Cobb shares her enthusiasm through her many books of experiments. She started her career as a junior high school science teacher. Because she found science books boring, she used books from the library to make science more interesting. After leaving teaching, she began to write her own science books.

Mark your Calendars!

Bookmark contest

The library will kick off its 2nd annual Bookmark Contest on Monday, April 2 when the Friends of the Library sponsor a bookmark design contest for kids in kindergarten through 8th grade.

In April, kids can pick up an entry form from the library and let their creative drawing skills run wild! Last year’s winners received ribbons and gift certificates. Winning bookmark designs were reproduced and handed out at the library!

Be sure to stop in the library for specific dates and details.
**READ ACROSS AMERICA**

March 2nd is the 97th anniversary of Theodore Geisel’s birth. Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, is the author of many wonderful children’s books, including *The Cat in the Hat*, *Green Eggs and Ham*, *And to Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street*, and *Horton Hears a Who*, to name just a few.

To honor Dr. Seuss and promote the importance and enjoyment of reading, the National Education Association (NEA) celebrates this day with an event called “Read Across America.” This program began in 1998 with almost 10 million children and adults celebrating the joy of reading, and it continues to grow as more schools, libraries and other organizations participate each year.

The Clinton-Macomb Public Library will join in this year with a Read-a-Thon at the South Branch. Families are invited to come to the library Friday, March 2 from 6:30 to 9 PM and read together. It is the goal of the NEA to have a caring adult reading with a child for at least 30 minutes that day. Families are welcome to stay for as short a time or as long as they wish. Just bring a pillow, a bean bag or a blanket and we’ll supply the books. No registration is required.

**E-books are here!**

You’ve heard about them. You’ve seen them on television. Come to the library now and check one out yourself! E-books are here and waiting for you to take them home.

Each e-book reader is a hand-held device that holds 8-10 books downloaded by the library. Using touch-screen commands, you can read the books and flip back and forth between them. A built-in dictionary lets you look up word definitions as you read. Best-selling titles include *The Last Precinct* by Patricia Cornwell; *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft* by Stephen King; and *Roses are Red* by James Patterson.

E-books are fun and easy to use. They circulate for a week at a time. When you check one out, you will receive the reader, a battery charger, an instruction sheet, and a carrying case. Librarians will happily help you with the reader and answer questions.

Come check out an e-book today and try this new technology for yourself!

**Easy, convenient and fun!**

**New Online Book Club**

The library is pleased to announce its new OnLine Book Club. Visit our Web site, www.cmpl.org, to subscribe to this fun, free service. E-mail addresses are kept confidential.

Monday through Friday, you will receive daily e-mail with a portion of a chapter from a popular book and updates on library news and events. The daily e-mail takes about five minutes to read, perfect for people with busy schedules. After receiving two or three complete chapters from a book, you start receiving a new book. Call CMPL to reserve the books so you can finish them!

The OnLine Book Club offers fiction and non-fiction, self-help and inspirational titles. Recent titles have included *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson and *The Great Divide* by T. Davis Bunn. Don’t miss out; subscribe today!

**Join us for a new...**

**Book Discussion Series**

The CMPL-South Branch is hosting a book discussion series entitled “Let’s Talk About It.” This series began in Vermont in the 1970s, and it has evolved into a national humanities program that provides grant money so public libraries can host book discussions. Each series revolves around a central theme and is led by a humanities scholar.

The theme for the South Branch discussions will be based on an essay by Valerie Smith titled, “Long Gone: The Literature and Culture of African American Migration.” Five books, including best-selling author Walter Mosley’s *Devil in a Blue Dress*, will be discussed. The essay provides a backdrop for the central theme and a brief description and critique of each of the books in the series.

The discussions will be guided by Dr. Ida Simmons-Short, an instructor at Wayne County Community College. Dr. Simmons-Short is excited about moderating the discussions. “I think this is great! The titles will appeal to a wide audience and generate some wonderful discussions.”

According to Christine Lind Hage, Library Director, “We want this discussion series to be stimulating and rewarding, but mainly we just want people to have a good time with it. There’s no pressure—you don’t have to make all the sessions. Just sign up for the days you can come.”

To participate, call the South Branch reference desk at 226-5073. The essay and books will be available at the reference desk. This program is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association.

“Let’s Talk About It” discussions will take place on Saturdays from Noon until 2:30 PM at the South Branch. Dates are March 3, April 7, April 28 and May 12.
CMPL Staff Favorites from 2000

The following is a list of favorites from 2000 selected by staff of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library. Do you have favorites from 2000 not in our collection? We would love to hear about it!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Juvenile Easy</th>
<th>Adult Fiction</th>
<th>Adult Non-Fiction</th>
<th>Compact Discs</th>
<th>Videos/DVDs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Falcomer, Ian</td>
<td>Barr, Nevada</td>
<td>Bradford, Sarah</td>
<td>Me Talk Pretty One Day</td>
<td>Buena Vista Social Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polacco, Patricia</td>
<td>Beagle, Peter S.</td>
<td>Deep South</td>
<td>La Grande Therese: The Greatest Scandal of the Century</td>
<td>Chicken Run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stenmark, Victoria</td>
<td>Crombie, Deborah</td>
<td>Dreaming of the Bones</td>
<td>Jim the Boy Eating Well for Optimum Health: The Essential Guide to Food, Diet and Nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Van Leeuwen, Jean</td>
<td>Earley, Tony</td>
<td>More Than You Know</td>
<td>plainsong</td>
<td>Genghis Blues</td>
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<td>Gutcheon, Beth</td>
<td>Dress Lodger</td>
<td>Murdered House</td>
<td>Gladiator</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Holman, Sheri</td>
<td>Fiona Range</td>
<td>Jerusalem Vigil: A Novel</td>
<td>Muse</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Magnan, Pierre</td>
<td>Thoene, Bodie</td>
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<td>Mystery, Alaska</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Morris, M. McGary</td>
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Young Adult Fiction

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<th>Cushman, Karen</th>
<th>Adult Fiction</th>
<th>Adult Non-Fiction</th>
<th>Compact Discs</th>
<th>Videos/DVDs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Holm, Jennifer L.</td>
<td>Bradford, Sarah</td>
<td>America’s Queen: The Life of Jacqueline Kennedy Onasis</td>
<td>Me Talk Pretty One Day</td>
<td>Buena Vista Social Club</td>
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<td>Lowry, Lois</td>
<td>Bryson, Bill</td>
<td>In a Sunburned Country</td>
<td>La Grande Therese: The Greatest Scandal of the Century</td>
<td>Chicken Run</td>
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<td>Pilkey, Dav</td>
<td>Cramer, R. B.</td>
<td>Joe Dimaggio: The Hero's Life</td>
<td>plainsong</td>
<td>Genghis Blues</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Groopman, J. E.</td>
<td>Second Opinions: Stories of Intuition and Choice in a Changing World of Medicine</td>
<td>Murdered House</td>
<td>Gladiator</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Philbrick, Nathaniel</td>
<td>In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex</td>
<td>Jerusalem Vigil: A Novel</td>
<td>Muse</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Quindlen, Anna</td>
<td>Short Guide to a Happy Life</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mystery, Alaska</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Help the library …

**Adopt a Shelf**

The Friends of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library are looking for volunteers to adopt a shelf or section at the library. "What we’d like people to do is select a section of the library and take responsibility for keeping that section in order," said Library Director Christine Lind Hage. Volunteers do not need any special experience, as the library staff will provide an individual quick training/orientation for each volunteer.

The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library, a non-profit, volunteer organization that raises money and provides services to the library that cannot be accommodated in the library’s regular budget. Membership in the Friends is encouraged, but not required for participation in the Adopt a Shelf program. Membership forms are available at the library.

"This is a program for customers who visit the library on a regular basis and would like to help out in a small way," said Jan Jones, secretary of the Friends of the Library. "We read that other libraries were doing this type of program and having great success so we thought we'd try it here at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library." Volunteers can select the section of the library that interests them the most. The program will be available at both the temporary Main Library on Garfield at 19 Mile and at the South Branch on Gratiot between 15 and 16 Mile Roads.

**To volunteer to adopt a shelf**

or for more information, call 226-5007

**To join the Friends of the Library,**

pick up a membership form at the library or online at www.cmpl.org
Visit the South Branch where “You’ll always feel at home.”

The Wizard of Oz theme in the youth area at the South Branch makes children (and adults) feel welcome!