

Hours
M-Th 10-8
F-Sa 10-5
Su 1-5 (Oct-Apr)

215 N. Ottawa St.
Tecumseh MI 49286
(517) 423-2238
www.tecumsehlibrary.org

**Winter
2021**

SHELF LIFE

BEYOND THE STACKS

News from Tecumseh District Library

Happy Holidays to all of you from all of us here at TDL! We wish peace and happiness and lots of good books for you!

In this issue of *Shelf Life* we feature Ancestry Library, a genealogy tool the library offers for our patrons. We also offer many other digital resources such as Mango for learning languages, hoopla for digital audiobooks, ebooks, music and television, Michigan Electronic Library (MeL) for lots of databases plus interlibrary loan, Tutor.com for one-on-one help with schoolwork, and Libby for ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines. Visit our website at <https://www.tecumsehlibrary.org/> to learn more about our digital resources.

Continuing with the genealogy theme, we recommend some books on the immigrant experience. There are so many excellent choices on this topic and we're happy to help you find something compelling.

Finally, we feature our "most wanted" for 2021. These are the titles that were requested most frequently during the year. Remember, you can always request that we consider purchasing a book, put a hold on a book, or order a book through inter-library loan, and all these things can be done through our website.

Stay warm and come and see us at the library!

LEARN

EXPLORE

INTERACT

CREATE

ENJOY

Our Vision Statement:

The Tecumseh District Library strives to be a premier facility offering a welcoming, accessible community resource where all people can learn, explore, interact, create, and enjoy.

3-Step Guide To Researching Your Family Tree

Julie Olin, Lenawee County Family Researchers

Genealogy, as a hobby, has experienced quite a surge in popularity over the past three decades. The surge began with the advent of public access to the internet and received an additional boost in the past decade coinciding with the introduction of private DNA testing. This popularity has resulted in the availability of billions of records and millions of family trees online. Once you start clicking, though, it's easy to get lost in it all. Here are few tips to help get your research started and to keep those discoveries coming:

1. Genealogy doesn't have to be an expensive hobby!

Subscription sites, such as Ancestry, are fantastic, but costly. However, you can access some subscription sites through your local library. TDL, for example, offers **Ancestry** and **My Heritage** access. Also, there are many free online resources, such as **FamilySearch.org** that are seriously competing with paid sites. You must register to use it, but it will always be free.

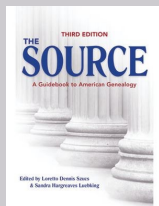
 **ancestry**
in-library edition

Discover your family tree in the Library.

 **MyHeritage**

2. Despite the fact that billions of records are available online, the majority of records are not!

There are countless records still hiding out in the hometowns of your ancestors. Some are the records that hold the keys to breaking through your brick walls! In order to locate the records, you need to learn something about the different types of sources and about the states, counties and townships in which they are located.



Ancestry published two books – both free – that will help. **The Source** provides information about the different types of records, how and why they were created, and what you can expect to find in them, while **Ancestry's Red Book** is organized by place so that you can discover what kinds of records were collected in a particular location. Links to both can be found here:

<https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/>. The same information can be found in the FamilySearch Research Wiki here: <https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/>.

Genealogical and historical societies are great sources of information about what kinds of records can only be found locally and in-person, and members are always willing to share their expertise. Membership is usually inexpensive and frequently offers access to free speakers and state and local resources not available to the public. **Lenawee County Family Researchers**, for example, has records of local burials that are not available online. Membership is \$10/year and includes guest speakers, occasional field trips and invitations to other libraries, and a quarterly newsletter. You may also want to consider joining societies in other communities in which your family has roots, and don't forget to look up these groups on Facebook!

You can learn more at: <https://lcfamilyresearchers.wixsite.com/lcfr/home>.



TECUMSEH
HISTORICAL MUSEUM

3. Not everything you see on the internet is accurate!

As with everything else online, genealogy misinformation spreads quickly. It's important to learn a few basic research skills that will allow you to evaluate the information you encounter. The **FamilySearch Research Wiki** includes many tutorials and articles to help you develop your research skills. Online classes are also available; YouTube hosts many helpful how-to videos. And there are some really great podcasts out there as well. Also, signing up for newsletters from the libraries in your town and county will alert you to live classes available in your community.

Additional Genealogy Resources

Compiled by Local Genealogists, Mark and Sheryl Moll

Local Agencies

Visit agencies in-person and online that are local to your searches, such as libraries, County Clerk's Offices, historical museums and societies, genealogy centers, and government archives.

Online resources (free)

***Tecumsehlibrary.org** Click on the Reference Tab to find digitized archives, **Ancestry Library**, **Newsbank**, and much more.

***Familyseach.org** (There is a Family History Center (LDS) in Adrian. Information about it can be found on their website.)

***MyHeritage Library Edition** (mel.org)

***New York State Historic Newspapers**
<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/>

***Ohio Memory Historical Newspapers**
<https://ohiomemory.ohiohistory.org/newspapers>

***Cyndi's List (online genealogical resources)**
<https://www.cyndislist.com/categories/>

***Michigan Digital Newspapers**
<https://digmichnews.cmich.edu/>

***Elephind** – search the world's historical newspapers
<https://elephind.com/>

***Historic newspapers online** (many states)
<http://directory.advantage-preservation.com>

***Michiganology** (census, death records, etc.)

<https://michiganology.org/>

***Historic Map Works Residential Genealogy**

<http://www.historicmapworks.com/> (plat maps)

***Access Genealogy**

<https://accessgenealogy.com/genealogy-databases>

***Library of Michigan Family History site**

https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/0,9327,7-381-88854_89984---,00.html

***Findagrave.com**

***Chronicling America by the Library of Congress**

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/> (newspapers)

***Google books** often has digitized copies of historical books and periodicals that are useful for genealogy.

***MIGenWeb** (Michigan Genealogy on the Web)
<http://www.migenweb.org>

***LDS U.S. Newspapers and Obituaries Directory**
<https://ldsgenealogy.com/newspapers-obituaries>

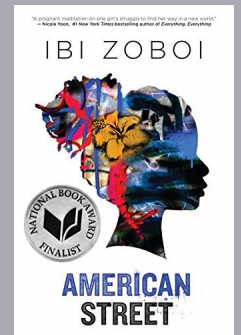
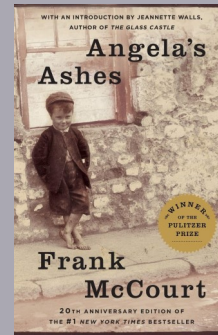
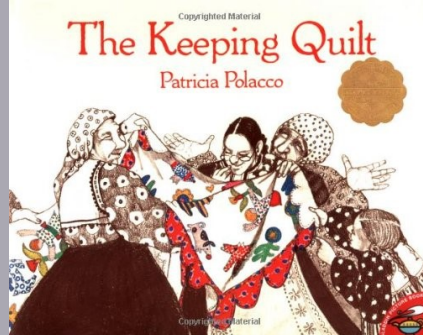
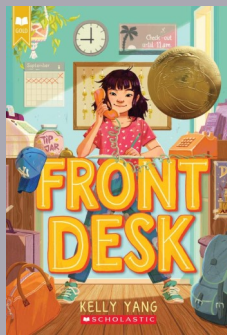
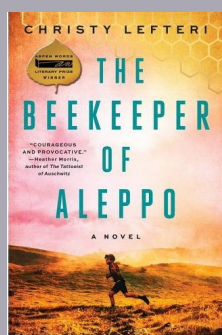
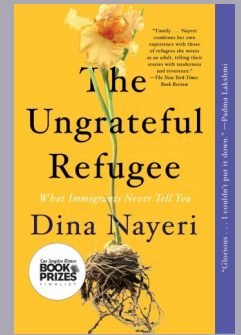
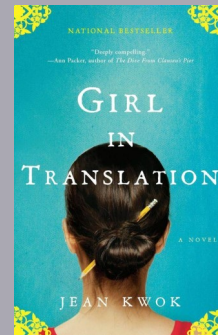
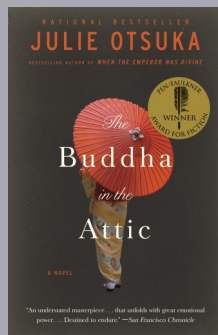
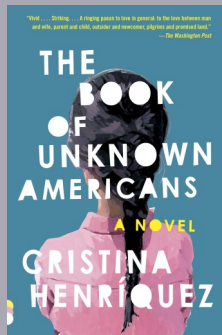
***Michigan County Histories and Atlases**
<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/micounty/>

Online (paid)

***Newspapers.com** (an Ancestry product)

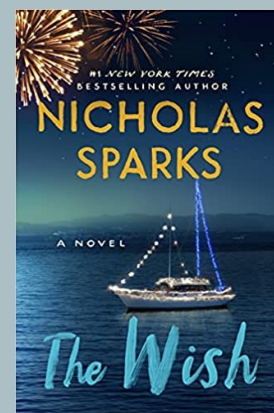
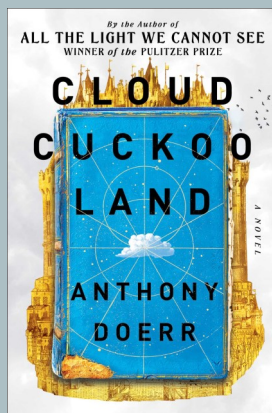
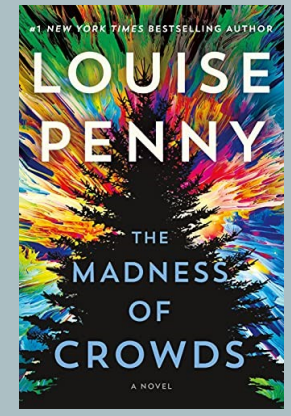
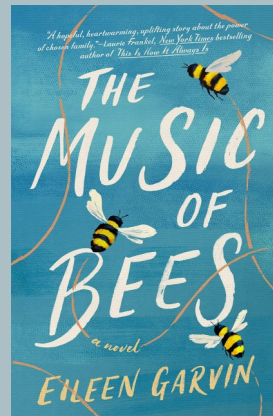
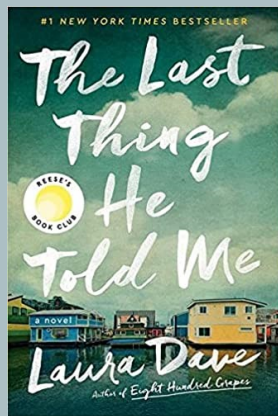
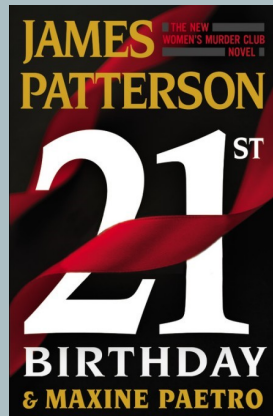
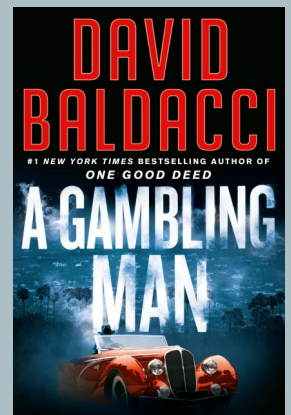
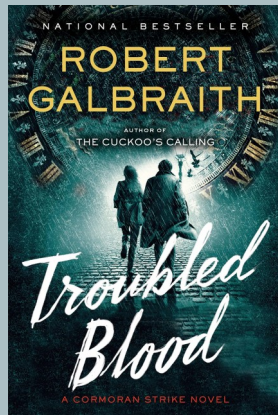
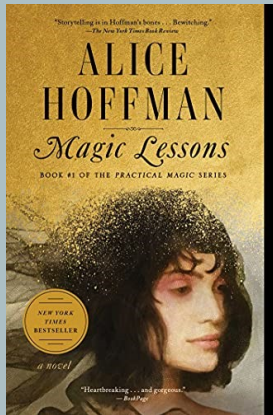
***Genealogybank.com** (We prefer this site, plus it is less expensive.)

Books on the Immigrant Experience



TDL'S MOST WANTED 2021

OUR MOST REQUESTED TITLES



D Printer, Inc.

Digital | Offset | Wide Format

6197 N. Adrian Hwy. Tecumseh | 517.423.6554

*Have a Safe and Happy
Holiday Season!*