

# HACKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

OCT - DEC 2022

## Library Cards Can Save You Money!

Have you ever wondered how much money you save by using your library card? Borrowing items from the library gives you the chance to enjoy new books, movies, tv shows, music CDs, magazines, and more, without ever having to spend a dime!

After testing out a Library Value Calculator from [ilovelibraries.org](http://ilovelibraries.org), we discovered that if a family were to check out 3 adult books, 2 young adult books, 5 children's books, and 3 movies, you'd save approximately \$260.00!

Using your library card to borrow items not only gives you the opportunity to check out materials from your home library, but also through interlibrary loan (for example, borrowing items

within the Lakeland Library Cooperative), through MeL (Michigan eLibrary), and through digital library eResources!

Just imagine, one trip to the library can save you hundreds of dollars, all from using your library card.

You can get a library card ANYTIME during the year! If you don't already have a library card, we encourage you to visit the library to get one. Getting a library card is free! As an adult who is 18 years or older, all you'll need is a valid state I.D. or driver's license with your most current address.

Youth who are under 18 can

also get a library card of their own! To get a full access card, a child/teen can have a parent/guardian cosign.

A library card is something everyone can benefit from, no matter your age!

Getting a library card is free!



Hackley Public Library

**LIBRARY CARDS  
CAN SAVE  
YOU MONEY!**



## Left to Write

**OCT. 12, WED.      DEC. 14, WED.**  
**NOV. 9, WED.      from 3:30-4:30 PM**

If you enjoy creative writing, you'll love Left to Write, HPL's own creative writing group! Here you can participate in writing exercises, share your own stories, and meet other creative writers. This group provides a low-key atmosphere for writers of all experiences, everyone is welcome! Remember to bring a pen and paper.



### Left to Write at Night!

There will be no "Left to Write at Night" until the New Year. Watch for details to come!

## THE WHISKEY CHARMERS

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 5:30 - 6:30 PM**



Experience an evening of music from award-winning duo, The Whiskey Charmers! This talented pair will be back at HPL to share their unique style of alt-country music. Registration preferred.

## MUSKEGON COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, ALL DAY, DROP IN**

Housing options, childcare, healthcare, higher education, job searching, mental healthcare, massage, and everything in between - There are so many resources available in Muskegon County! Stop by Hackley Public Library and put together a personalized bag of information to connect you with people, organizations, and diverse care options in our community!

## COMPUTER CLASSES

Registration Required

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 10:30-11:30 AM**

Email Computer Class

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 10:30-11:30 AM**

Basic Intro to Computers Class

## COLD CASE MICHIGAN

with Tobin Buhk

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

Plunge into the world of unsolved homicide in Michigan! Examine the evidence, ponder the forensics, and consider the suspects in some of the most vexing murder mysteries in Michigan history. Registration preferred.



## YOGA PREP for Holiday Stress

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

Discover the ability to remain steady and equal, calm and at peace despite any chaos that may be brewing during the holidays. The class will include simple movement, breathing techniques, and relaxation. All ability levels are welcome! Registration Required.

## LIFE DRAWING SERIES #2: PLANTS

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 5:30-7 PM**

Join us as local artist Bill Embil teaches the basics of drawing plants, paying close attention to line work, shape, perspective, and rendering. Registration Required.

## HOLIDAY CHEER PARTY!

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 5-7 PM**

Celebrate the holiday season with a drop-in Holiday Cheer Party! We'll have trivia, bingo, crafts, and an opportunity to buy books from our Friends of Hackley Library! Although the games and crafts will be geared more toward adults, kids are welcome to attend and participate in the holiday cheer!



## READER'S THEATER: COZY CHRISTMAS TALES

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

Join for a cozy night of Christmas tales put on by local performer Les Rorick and the Muskegon Civic Theater. Bring a blanket and curl up with some hot cocoa to watch scenes of holiday magic and whimsy under the stained glass windows! Registration preferred.

## INTERESTED IN PROGRAMS?

Find even more details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org) on the events calendar!



## WEST MI VOICES: ZINE LAUNCH

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, ALL DAY, DROP-IN**

Come celebrate the launch of *West Michigan Voices*, Michigan's first community-based zine collection, on October 7 at Hackley Library! Drop in anytime during open hours and take a peek at the very first zines in our collection. There will be information on how to get involved, plus we'll have some giveaways and light refreshments, as supplies last.



Adult Hackley Crafts schedule: see page six.

# HACKLEY PROGRAMS CALENDAR

PAGE THREE 

A quick glance for all HPL programs and events.

program departments: **A** = adult, **T** = teen, **Y** = youth, and **ALL** = all ages

## OCTOBER

- Y-T** | **TAKE AND MAKES**  
Available **OCTOBER 3**
- Y** | **STORY TIME**  
10:30AM Select Fridays
- A** | **WEST MI VOICES:  
ZINE LAUNCH**  
ALL DAY, **OCTOBER 7**
- Y-T** | **INTRO TO CUE**  
4:30 PM, **OCTOBER 11**
- A** | **LEFT TO WRITE (ONGOING)**  
3:30 PM, **OCTOBER 12**
- Y-T** | **CRAFTY AFTERNOON -  
FOSSILS!**  
2:00 PM, **OCTOBER 15**
- A** | **THE WHISKEY  
CHARMERS**  
5:30 PM, **OCTOBER 15**
- T** | **TEEN CRAFT -  
MACRAME KEYCHAINS**  
3:30 PM, **OCTOBER 17**
- A** | **MUSKEGON  
COMMUNITY  
RESOURCE FAIR**  
ALL DAY, **OCTOBER 21**
- A** | **COMPUTER CLASSES**  
10:30 AM, **OCTOBER 22**  
10:30 AM, **NOVEMBER 19**
- A** | **COLD CASE MICHIGAN**  
with Tobin Buhk  
5:30 PM, **OCTOBER 28**

## OCTOBER

- Y-T** | **NOVEMBER TAKE  
AND MAKE**  
Available **OCTOBER 28**
- Y** | **HALLOWEEN STORY  
TIME AND CRAFT**  
4:00 PM, **OCTOBER 31**

## NOVEMBER

- A** | **YOGA PREP FOR  
HOLIDAY STRESS**  
5:30 PM, **NOVEMBER 3**
- Y** | **STORY TIME**  
10:30AM Select Fridays
- Y** | **INTRO TO LITTLEBITS**  
4:30 PM, **NOVEMBER 7**
- T** | **INTRO TO LITTLEBITS**  
4:30 PM, **NOVEMBER 8**
- A** | **LEFT TO WRITE (ONGOING)**  
3:30 PM, **NOVEMBER 9**
- A** | **LIFE DRAWING SERIES  
#2: PLANTS**  
5:30 PM, **NOVEMBER 10**
- T** | **TEEN CRAFT -  
BLACK OUT POETRY**  
3:30 PM, **NOVEMBER 14**
- ALL** | **COMMUNITY  
CHRISTMAS TREE  
LIGHTING WITH  
REINDEER!**  
4:30 PM, **NOVEMBER 26**

## DECEMBER

- Y** | **STORY TIME**  
10:30AM Select Fridays
- A** | **HOLIDAY CHEER  
PARTY!**  
5:00 PM, **DECEMBER 3**
- Y-T** | **TAKE AND MAKES**  
Available **DECEMBER 5**
- ALL** | **MUSKEGON COOKIE  
CRAWL**  
10:00 AM, **DECEMBER 10**  
Tins need to be purchased ahead  
of time from the City of Muskegon.
- Y-T** | **REINDEER HOT COCOA  
TAKE AND MAKE**  
10:00 AM, **DECEMBER 10**
- A** | **LEFT TO WRITE (ONGOING)**  
3:30 PM, **DECEMBER 14**
- A** | **READER'S THEATER:  
COZY CHRISTMAS  
TALES**  
5:30 PM, **DECEMBER 15**
- Y** | **CRAFTY HOLIDAY DAY!**  
10:00 AM, **DECEMBER 17**
- T** | **TEEN HANG OUT**  
3:30 PM, **DECEMBER 19**

## OCTOBER TAKE AND MAKES AVAILABLE OCTOBER 3

### YOUTH TAKE AND MAKE - CARDBOARD CIRCLE WEAVING

Pick up your circle loom in Youth Services and start weaving! A round loom is perfect for making pot holders, a trivet, or a beautiful piece of wall art.



How to Make  
and use  
a Lucet Fork

### TEEN TAKE AND MAKE - VIKING LUCET

In honor of Leif Erikson day (October 9) you will learn an old Scandinavian weaving technique. A lucet provides beautiful cords that you can use to make jewelry and as a decorative addition to anything you can think of.

### INTRO TO CUE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 4:30 - 5:30 PM

This in-person program is a gentle introduction to our new robots: Cue! These robots are designed for older elementary students and up, or students with some robot/coding experience. This program is open to eight families—each family will share a robot. Registration is required.



### CRAFTY AFTERNOONS - FOSSILS!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2 - 3:30 PM

Jurassic times call for Jurassic measures so we created FOSSIL CRAFTS! If you like prehistoric puns and dinosaur crafts this is the place for you. Registration is not required.

### TEEN CRAFT - MACRAME KEYCHAINS

MONDAY,  
OCTOBER 17,  
3:30 - 4:30 PM

Chill in the YA room and make some groovy macrame keychains. Registration is required.



### HALLOWEEN STORY TIME AND CRAFT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 4:00 PM

Miss Lydia and Miss Melissa have spooked up some fun, non-scary stories and a craft for this very special afternoon story time. Costumes are not required but greatly encouraged!



### NOVEMBER TAKE AND MAKE AVAILABLE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

#### GRATITUDE GARLAND

**Gratitude: the quality of being thankful.** Each day of November we will think of something we are thankful for and write it on a piece of paper (provided in your take and make). Each piece of paper will be added to a piece of yarn to hang somewhere at home. When we are done, we can share our gratitude with our family and friends.



### INTRO TO LITTLEBITS - GRADES 3-5

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 4:30 - 5:30 PM

Explore our new STEAM kits: LittleBits. This class will provide a broad overview of each type of LittleBit, their functions, and how to connect everything to make it work. Registration is required. Sign up individually or as a family. This class is meant for students in grades 3-5.



### INTRO TO LITTLEBITS - GRADES 6-8

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 4:30 - 5:30 PM

Explore our new STEAM kits: LittleBits. This class will provide a broad overview of each type of LittleBit, their functions, and how to connect everything to make it work. Registration is required. Sign up individually or as a family. This class is meant for students in grades 6-8.

**TEEN CRAFT -  
BLACK OUT POETRY**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14,  
3:30 - 4:30 PM**

Always wanted to write a poem but didn't know where to start... You know your voice is there but you haven't found the words... We've got the place. Drop in to the Hackley Young Adult room and create a poem/art/masterpiece! Using an existing text, you can eliminate words to create what you've always wanted. We'll provide the "words," you provide the imagination!



**MUSKEGON COOKIE  
CRAWL & REINDEER HOT  
COCOA TAKE AND MAKE**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10,  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

Hackley Public Library is a stop during the 2022 Muskegon Cookie Crawl! To participate in the Cookie Crawl, be sure to purchase your official Cookie Crawl tin ahead of time from the City of Muskegon. During the Cookie Crawl, Reindeer Hot Cocoa take and make kits will be available for kids and teens from the library! **The hot cocoa kits are free, and can be picked up separately from the Cookie Crawl.**



**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS  
TREE LIGHTING WITH  
REINDEER!**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26,  
4:30 - 6:30 PM**

Kick off the holiday season with a visit to Hackley Park! Meet the reindeer, take a few pictures, and watch the tree lighting as we enter the holiday season together.



**TEEN HANG OUT**

**MONDAY,  
DECEMBER 19,  
3:30 - 4:30 PM**

Come to talk, color, eat some snacks, listen to music, and think about what we'd like to see happen in the YA room in 2023.

**CRAFTY  
HOLIDAY DAY!**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17,  
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

The craft closets are opening up again for some fun holiday hijinks. Crafting materials will be available at 10:00 am and will be put away at 4:00 pm.

**DECEMBER TAKE AND MAKES  
AVAILABLE DECEMBER 5**

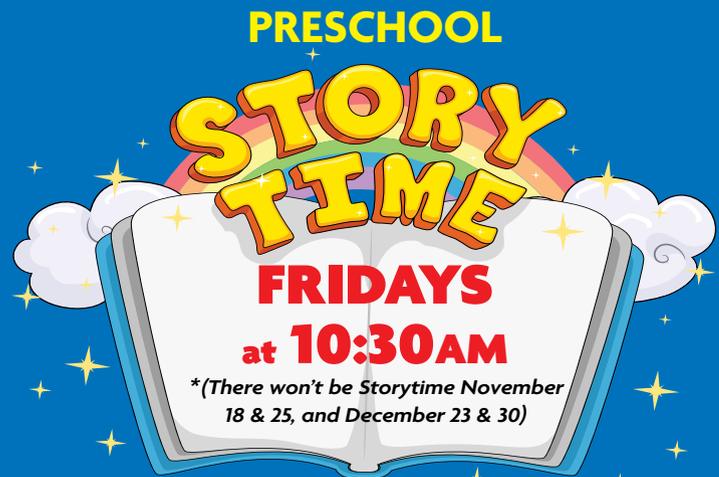
**YOUTH TAKE AND MAKE -  
SPARKLY SNOWFLAKES**

Let it snow! Let it snow!! Let it snow! These snowflakes are just as unique as the kind that fall from the sky, but they're a lot dryer and warmer.



**TEEN TAKE AND MAKE -  
PAPER SNOWFLAKE**

Let it snow! Let it snow!! Let it snow! These snowflakes are just as unique as the kind that fall from the sky, but they're a lot dryer and warmer.



**Intended for ages 0-5, our in-person storytime is designed to teach early literacy skills to parents and caregivers while children enjoy a fun, interactive atmosphere. Join us for stories, songs, and movement activities!**

## A Brief History of the Torrent House

The Torrent House, unlike Hackley Library's main building, has had several past lives! Construction began in 1891, when lumber baron John Torrent's wooden home was moved off the lot. The completed home suffered major damage in a fire in 1894, just before the family was to move in. The Torrents and their children occupied the house until the 1920s, and after some contentious legal questions regarding ownership, the Ralph J. Balbirnie Funeral Home acquired the building around 1930. It remained a funeral home until 1942, when it was converted into the Muskegon Osteopathic Hospital. It served this

function until 1957 when the addition was completed and became the main hospital.

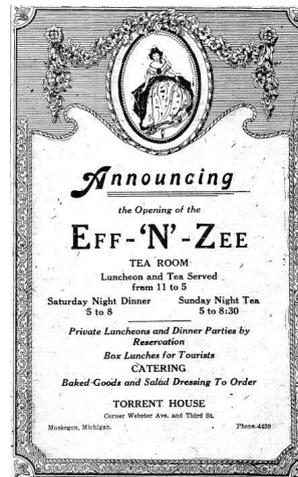
When the now-defunct General Hospital was constructed in 1967, the facility was closed and eventually came under ownership of the Red Cross. The mansion itself fell into disrepair and was slated to be razed, but was saved through the heroic efforts of dozens of volunteers when the City of Muskegon acquired the building in 1973 to prevent its demolition. Parts and furnishings from long-destroyed buildings in Muskegon were used to restore the building to a more usable condition. Finally, the Friends of

Hackley Library purchased the building in 1991, when a Designer's Showhouse provided the means for further restoration. The 2nd and 3rd floors have been in use by the Library since that time. The Local History & Genealogy Department was moved out of HPL's main building during the Library's major renovation, and has occupied the 1st floor since 2012. We look forward to this historic building providing many more decades of service!

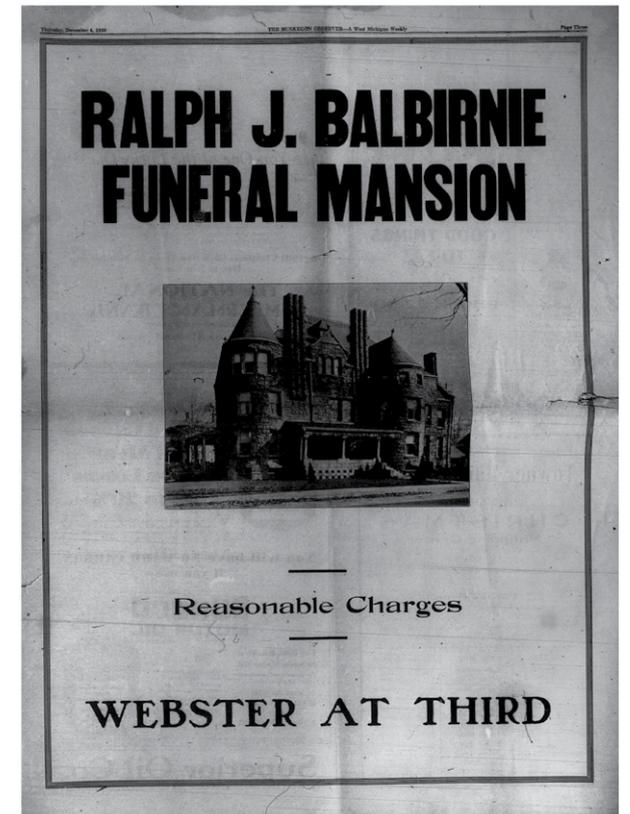
The Ralph J. Balbirnie Funeral Mansion offered its services for 'reasonable charges' in this advertisement from 1930.



During its life as a funeral home, the Torrent House was almost entirely covered with ivy.



Parts of the Torrent House were used for different businesses over the years - possibly while some family members still occupied the home. This advertisement for the "Eff-N-Zee Tea Room" appeared in the Muskegon Chronicle, July 10, 1922.



**EXHIBIT RUNNING**  
**MAY 14 - DEC. 29, 2022**  
**DANGEROUS THINGS**

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MUSKEGON MUSEUM OF HISTORY & SCIENCE of the Lakeshore Museum Center

[lakeshoremuseum.org](http://lakeshoremuseum.org)

MUSKEGON CIVIC theatre presents **RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET**  
 Book, Lyrics and Music by Bob Carlton  
 October 7-22 2022  
 Beardsley Theater  
 etix 1-800-914-3849 etix.com  
 FRAUNTHAL CENTER Box Office Monday - Friday 11am - 5:30pm  
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 muskegoncivictheatre.org

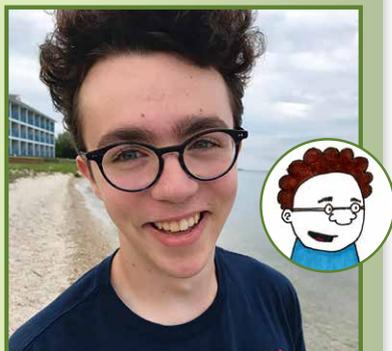
MUSKEGON CIVIC theatre presents **INSPECTING Christmas Carol**  
 by Daniel Sullivan and the Seattle Repertory Theatre  
 God help us Evergreen  
 Nov. 18-Dec. 4, 2022  
 Beardsley Theater  
 Corporate PARTner PNC BANK Media Sponsor thrive P&P  
 muskegoncivictheatre.org

We recently got a chance to talk with  
**SIMON SCHEER,**

a comics creator and contributor to our brand new zine collection, and here's what he had to say!

**1. How old were you when you made your first zine?**

I started drawing in my homework and in my tests in elementary school—I was lucky my teachers were very lenient! I would draw short little stories and pictures, which turned into zines when I got into fifth grade. I started selling them in sixth grade as a fundraiser for my brother's diabetes.



**2. Where did you learn how to make zines?**

I began drawing little one panel cartoons—little drawings to make classmates laugh—when I was really young. I loved reading the Captain Underpants series as a kid, and the style of George and Harold's comics really drew me in. I began to collect my little cartoons into small books, and short stories followed.

**3. Why did you choose the zine format over others?**

My format came from mimicking comic books. I started off small, splitting a piece of paper into eight, and drawing. I soon realized my hands couldn't keep writing that small, so I graduated to a half sheet of printer paper. With more space, I felt I could tell the story I wanted to tell, while still keeping my intricate linework.

Technical aspect aside, I love the freedom of zines. It's a very forgiving medium, and I don't feel like I have to be bound down by elements you see in other mediums!

**4. You have published your first graphic novel, which is amazing! Was it easy to make that leap from zines to graphic novels?**

Yes and no! Over the years, I've slowly been telling larger stories, with more ambitious storylines and more issues, so in that aspect I certainly felt ready. However—it was certainly daunting once I had started! I had never done something so big before, and the sheer quantity of work my project would take was a lot to take in. I felt like nobody warned me about how much time it would take! With all this, a graphic novel was something I had always wanted to draw. It's a completely different feeling from zines to be holding a book in your hands that you wrote, you know?



**MEET A PATRON!**  
**ERICK**

**We love our patrons at Hackley Library, and are so excited to share Erick's HPL story!**

Erick first started coming to the library when the internet was becoming more readily available. A friend of his had mentioned Hackley Library offers free internet access, and invited him to come along. The rest is history, and Erick has been enjoying the library ever since!

Erick mentioned he hadn't read much since high school, and coming to Hackley Library reignited that joy for reading. When he first came into the library, he noticed a book on Lucille Ball. Being a fan of the show *I Love Lucy*, he was immediately drawn to that book and read it cover to cover.

Erick likes the quietness of the library, and has incorporated coming to the library into his weekly schedule. Out of the six days that HPL is open, Erick is likely to come in at least four of those days. Hackley Library is often the first stop of his day! He embraces many of the resources the library has to offer, including using a computer to check emails, as well as searching for new books to read.

We are so grateful for Erick, and are fortunate to have him as a Hackley patron!

FRIENDS OF HACKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
316 W. WEBSTER AVE., MUSKEGON, MI 49440

**231-722-8000**

HACKLEYLIBRARY.ORG

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\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*  
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Email: [askus@hackleylibrary.org](mailto:askus@hackleylibrary.org)

**MAIN LIBRARY HOURS**

*\*Hours are subject to change*

**MONDAY - TUESDAY: 9 AM - 7 PM**

**WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY: 9 AM - 5 PM**

TORRENT HOUSE: TUES-SAT: 10-5PM

## ADULT HACKLEY CRAFTS

*All adult Hackley Crafts require registration, and will open one month before each program date.*



### ROCK PAINTING

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

Rocks make the best canvases! Join us for Rock Painting, and see where your creativity takes you. Registration Required.

### ADVENT CALENDAR

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

Just in time for the holidays, make your own personalized Advent Calendar during this month's adult craft! Registration Required.

### GOOD LUCK BIRD

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 5,  
5:30 - 6:30 PM**

This adorable yarn bird will bring you the best of luck into the coming new year! Registration Required.



## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

After reading about it recently in the Muskegon Chronicle, you may wonder what's going on with the Torrent House. If you have not already, take a few moments to read the history of the Torrent House in the Local History & Genealogy section of our newsletter.

A new era may be approaching for the iconic structure on W. Webster and Third Street. The Downtown Muskegon Development Corporation acquired the adjoining building to remove and to restore the Torrent House to a stand-alone edifice.

The current goal is to demolish the so-named "Community Services Building in October 2022. The Hackley Public Library is preparing a plan for weatherproofing the Torrent House while a capital campaign is underway to raise funds to restore and enhance the building.

The aspiration of the Library in taking on this project is to further establish the Torrent House's status as one of Muskegon's crown jewels for many years to come. As well as improving the building's exterior aesthetics, we hope to increase accessibility for the public, allowing the Library to expand services and enhance the safety of the interior. Look for updates in the coming months. Contact the Community Foundation if you are interested in helping cover the costs for the demolition. As always, your feedback is also greatly appreciated!

Joe Zappacosta  
Director, Hackley Public Library



**BE SURE TO CHECK [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org) FOR NEWSLETTER UPDATES!**