



Where your story begins.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1.29.2026

Library Lapeer District Library Welcomes Stephen T. Banister as New Director

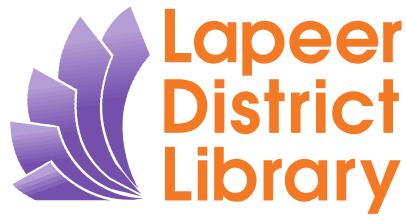
LAPEER, MI — The Lapeer District Library is pleased to announce Stephen T. Banister as its new Library Director. Banister brings more than 20 years of leadership experience in public and academic libraries nationwide and a proven record of modernizing library services, strengthening community engagement, and managing complex operations.

Most recently, Banister served as Library Director of the Germantown Community Library in Tennessee, where he led the library's first-ever five-year strategic plan, expanded programming by more than 65 percent, modernized policies and staffing, and implemented RFID technology to improve patron service. His leadership emphasized transparency, staff development, and community partnerships.

Banister has previously held director-level roles at Minot State University, Tallahassee State College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Lamar State College-Orange, and McKendree University, overseeing multi-million-dollar budgets and large, diverse staff teams. His experience includes managing statewide and global library operations and guiding major renovation, technology, and service expansion initiatives.

He holds a Master of Library and Information Science from Louisiana State University, a Bachelor's degree in History from Nicholls State University, and is currently pursuing an MBA in Program Management.

"Stephen Banister's depth of experience, strategic vision, and commitment to community-focused library service make him an outstanding choice to lead the Lapeer District Library," said Chris VanBelle.



Where your story begins.

As Director, Banister will focus on expanding access, strengthening community connections, and positioning the Lapeer District Library for long-term success.

###

Lapeer District Library | 201 Village West Drive S | Lapeer, MI 48446 | phone: 810.664.9521 | fax: 810.664.8527

www.library.lapeer.org

Marguerite deAngeli Main Branch Clifford Branch Columbiaville Branch Elba Branch Hadley Branch Metamora Branch Otter Lake Branch