Family History Resources

PAW PAW DISTRICT LIBRARY

The internet offers many fantastic resources for researching your family tree. We've compiled a list of our top websites for genealogical research.

Records & Databases

Find-a-grave A crowdsourced, searchable memorial and cemetery database.

Billion Graves A burial database created specifically with the genealogical community in mind. Every entry has a photo and GPS location.

Online Searchable Death Indexes, Records and Obituaries A directory of websites containing death records, death certificate indexes, death notices and registers, obituaries, wills and probate records, and cemetery burials.

One-Step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse Contains numerous tools for finding immigration records, census records, vital records, etc. Also find tools for working with calendars, maps, foreign alphabets, and more.

Cyndi's List A categorized list of links to genealogical research websites online. Search or browse by category.

FamilySearch Search records, create a free account and start your family tree.

Ancestry Access to one of the world's largest database for genealogy.

MyHeritage Library edition for Paw Paw library card holders is free with remote access. Billions of records, family trees, photos, etc.

The USGenWeb Project A network of state-specific genealogy websites. Includes a variety of unique U.S. state and county resources: photos, maps, transcriptions, historical documents, helpful links, and more.

Linkpendium A resource directory to genealogical information online covering U.S. states and counties. Search by keyword, limit by city, county, or surname, or browse localities and surnames alphabetically.

Visit us for assistance from our specialized staff.

- Call ahead or email to verify a librarian will be available.
- Make a list of information you are seeking.
- Organize what you know using a **family group** sheet or pedigree chart.
- If you know which items you would like to see please let us know so we can pull them prior to your visit.

Books and Newspapers

Google Books A full-text searchable index of millions of titles including books, magazines, and newspapers. Many titles can be read fully online or downloaded.

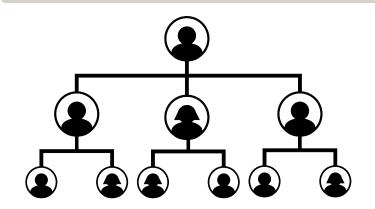
WorldCat Connects you to the collections and services of more than 10,000 libraries worldwide. Find genealogical materials near you or request them through interlibrary loan.

FamilySearch Digital Library Contains over half a million free digitized books, family histories, maps, yearbooks, biographies, local histories, etc.

Chronicling America Part of the Library of Congress' website. A U.S. newspaper database

and newspaper directory. **Elephind** A search engine focused on historical, digitized newspaper. Allows users to search across online newspaper sites simultaneously,

rather than having to discover, visit, and search each site individually.



Family History Resources

Archives and Repositories

National Archives and Records

Administration Search for Federal records in the NARA_catalog and Access Archival Database (AAD). Also visit the History Hub, a research support community for genealogists and historians where you can ask research questions and search other users' queries.

State Archives A directory compiled by the National Archives including contact information and websites for state archives and historical societies.

Where to Write for Vital Records Hosted by the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, this directory includes details for contacting the agencies that provide vital records, by state.

ArchiveGrid Search archival collections from over 1,400 archival institutions to discover primary source materials held in archives, libraries, museums, and historical societies across the U.S.

DNA & Family Trees

DISCLAIMER: Please do your research before sharing personal information online. **GEDmatch** A website built for genetic genealogy research. Allows users to upload DNA data, analyze results, and compare DNA shared with other users.

Gneanet An online genealogical community where users can create a family tree from scratch or import a GEDCOM file, import DNA test results, and search a library of indexed records.

WikiTree_Users can upload and export GEDCOM files to this free, shared, and collaborative family tree.

Geni With the goal of building a single, definitive online family tree, Geni invites collaboration and sharing of photos, videos, and records.



Reference and Learning

FamilySearch Research Wiki A free, online genealogical guide containing links to genealogy databases, websites, and articles outlining research strategies and guidance for different record types, locations, and historical events.

Atlas of Historical Boundaries This online atlas uses virtual maps to demonstrate the creation of, and subsequent changes in, the size, shape, and location of every county in the United States.

The Legal Genealogist This blog explains basic and advanced legal concepts and terminology. Search the blog to see if a topic of interest has already been covered and, if not, submit a question for the blog.

ConferenceKeeper_An online calendar of genealogy conferences, events, classes, volunteer opportunities, scholarships, certificate programs, and more.

Organizations

- Allen County Public Library's PERiodical Source Index (PERSI)
- David Rumsey Map Collections
- American Battle Monuments Commission Burial Search
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Nationwide Gravesite Locator
- Daughters of the the American Revolution Ancestor Database

