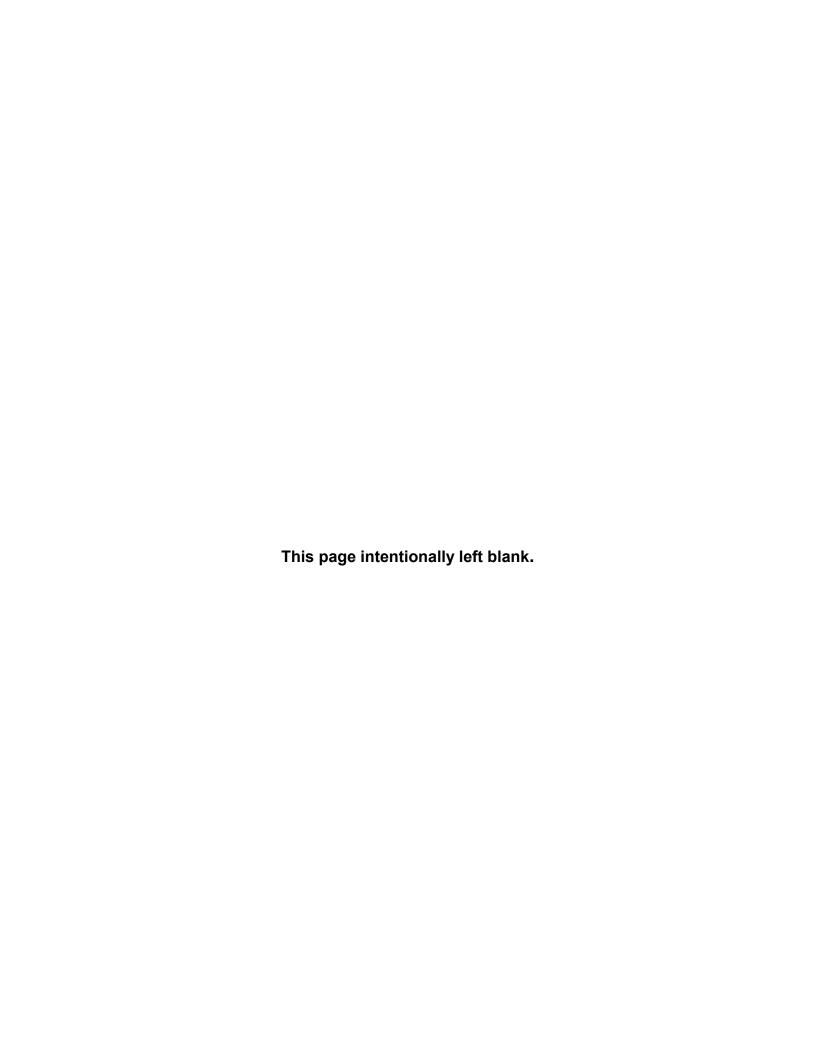




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Board of Trustees Amherst Public Library Lorain County 221 Spring Street Amherst, Ohio 44001

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Amherst Public Library, Lorain County, Ohio, (the Library) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Library's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Library prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of the Amherst Public Library, Lorain County, Ohio, as of December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

As described in Note 7, effective January 1, 2002, the Library reclassified its Endowment Fund.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 17, 2004 on our consideration of the Library's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Lausche Building / 615 Superior Ave., NW / Twelfth Floor / Cleveland, OH 44113-1801 Telephone: (216) 787-3665 (800) 626-2297 Fax: (216) 787-3361 www.auditor.state.oh.us Amherst Public Library Lorain County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Betty Montgomery

This report is intended solely for the information and use of, the audit committee, management, Board of Trustees and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

March 17, 2004

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	Governmental	Fund Types	Fiduciary Fund Type	
	General	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$286,360	\$0	\$0	\$286,360
Other Government Grants-In-Aid	770,142			770,142
Patron Fines and Fees	22,962			22,962
Earnings on Investments	3,394	8,782	3,487	15,663
Contributions, Gifts and Donations	2,770		3,430	6,200
Miscellaneous Receipts	400			400
Total Cash Receipts	1,086,028	8,782	6,917	1,101,727
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
Salaries and Benefits	506,028			506,028
Supplies	25,909			25,909
Purchased and Contracted Services	143,591			143,591
Library Materials	127,207			127,207
Other Objects	2,982	5,800		8,782
Capital Outlay	149,740			149,740
Total Cash Disbursements	955,457	5,800	0	961,257
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	130,571	2,982	6,917	140,470
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):				
Transfers-In			150,000	150,000
Transfers-Out	(150,000)			(150,000)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(150,000)	0	150,000	0
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(40, 400)	0.000	450.047	440.470
and Other Financing Disbursements	(19,429)	2,982	156,917	140,470
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	278,926	797,067	314,762	1,390,755
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$259,497	\$800,049	\$471,679	\$1,531,225

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type	
	General	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts:				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$282,936	\$0	\$0	\$282,936
Other Government Grants-In-Aid	778,673			778,673
Patron Fines and Fees	24,940			24,940
Earnings on Investments	8,420	10,202	2,965	21,587
Contributions, Gifts and Donations	3,713		51,255	54,968
Miscellaneous Receipts	3,125			3,125
Total Cash Receipts	1,101,807	10,202	54,220	1,166,229
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
Salaries and Benefits	494,121			494,121
Supplies	21,909			21,909
Purchased and Contracted Services	118,486			118,486
Library Materials	142,796			142,796
Other Objects	3,128			3,128
Capital Outlay	62,108			62,108
Total Cash Disbursements	842,548	0	0	842,548
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	259,259	10,202	54,220	323,681
Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements):				
Transfers-In		200,000	100,000	300,000
Transfers-Out	(300,000)			(300,000)
Total Other Financing Receipts/(Disbursements)	(300,000)	200,000	100,000	0
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(40.744)	240 202	454 220	222 694
and Other Financing Disbursements	(40,741)	210,202	154,220	323,681
Fund Cash Balances, January 1 - Restated	319,667	586,865	160,542	1,067,074
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$278,926	\$797,067	\$314,762	\$1,390,755

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Amherst Public Library, Lorain County, Ohio, (the Library) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of Ohio. The Library is directed by a seven-member Board of Trustees appointed by Amherst Exempted Village Board of Education. The Library provides the community with various educational and literary resources.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Library is financially accountable. Component units may also include organizations that provide significant on going financial support to the Library. The Library has no component units.

The Library's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Library is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when an expenditure is made.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash and Investments

Investments are included in fund cash balances. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The investment in STAR Ohio (the State Treasurer's investment pool) is valued at amounts reported by the State Treasurer.

D. Fund Accounting

The Library uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Library classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

2. Capital Project Fund

This fund is used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Library had the following significant capital project fund:

Building and Repair Fund – used for the purpose of repairing, improving, furnishing and equipping the existing Amherst Public Library.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

3. Fiduciary Fund (Trust Fund)

Trust funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. If the agreement requires the Library to maintain the corpus of the trust, the fund is classified as a nonexpendable trust fund. Other trust funds are classified as expendable. The Library had the following significant Expendable Trust Fund:

Endowment Fund – used to account for funds restricted by donors and also funds restricted by Board Resolution.

E. Budgetary Process

The Board must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end. Budgetary expenditures may not exceed appropriations at the fund level of control.

A summary of 2003 and 2002 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as capital outlay disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the basis of accounting the Library uses.

H. Total Columns

Total columns on the financial statements are captioned "(Memorandum Only)" to indicate that they are presented to facilitate financial analysis. Such data is not comparable to a consolidation.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Library maintains a cash and investments pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at December 31 follows:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

	2003	2002
Demand deposits	\$71,485	\$26,679
Petty cash and change cash	100	100
Total deposits	71,585	26,779
STAR Ohio	1,459,640	1,363,976
Total deposits and investments	\$1,531,225	\$1,390,755

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or (2) collateralized by the financial institution's Public entity deposit pool.

Investments: Investments in STAR Ohio not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or bookentry form.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary		
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance	
General	\$1,345,701	\$1,105,457	\$240,244	
Capital Projects	100,000	5,800	94,200	
Expendable Trust	0	0	0	
Total	\$1,445,701	\$1,111,257	\$334,444	

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	_
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$1,408,249	\$1,142,548	\$265,701
Capital Projects	0	0	0
Expendable Trust	0	0	0
Total	\$1,408,249	\$1,142,548	\$265,701

4. GRANTS-IN-AID AND TAX RECEIPTS

The primary source of revenue for Ohio public libraries is the State Library and Local Government Support Fund (LLGSF). The LLGSF is allocated to each county based on the county's prior intangibles tax of LLGSF revenues, and its population. The County Budget Commission allocates these funds to the Library based on its needs such as for the construction of new library buildings, improvements, operation, maintenance, or other expenses. The Budget Commission cannot reduce its allocation of these funds to the Library based on any additional revenues the Library receives. These revenues are reflected in the financial statements as Other Government Grants-In-Aid.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

4. GRANTS-IN-AID AND TAX RECEIPTS (Continued)

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by the taxing authority of the subdivision to whose jurisdiction the Library is subject. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Other Government Grants In Aid. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payment, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the taxing district.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Library.

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) is a state operated, cost-sharing, multiple employer public employee retirement system. OPERS provides retirement benefits to vested employees who are eligible to retire based upon years of service. OPERS also provides survivor and disability benefits to vested employees.

Contribution rates are prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. The Library's OPERS members contributed 8.5% of their gross salaries. The Library contributed an amount equal to 13.55% of participants' gross salaries from January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2003. The Library has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2003.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Commercial Insurance

The Amherst Public Library has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles: and
- Errors and omissions.

The Library also provides health insurance to full-time employees through a private carrier. The Library's liability is limited to the premiums it pays.

7. FUND RECLASSIFICATION

To correct an error in financial statement reporting, effective January 1, 2002, the Library reclassified the Endowment Fund, a Nonexpendable Trust Fund to an Expendable Trust Fund. The Endowment Fund represented the only Nonexpendable Trust Fund and is currently the only fund being reported within the Expendable Trust Fund Type.



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Trustees Amherst Public Library Lorain County 221 Spring Street Amherst, Ohio 44001

We have audited the financial statements of the Amherst Public Library, Lorain County, Ohio, (the Library) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003, and December 31, 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated March 17, 2004, wherein we noted the Library reclassified its Endowment Fund. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Library's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audits and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted a certain immaterial instance of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Library in a separate letter dated March 17, 2004.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audits, we considered the Library's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Library in a separate letter dated March 17, 2004.

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Amherst Public Library
Lorain County
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control
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This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management and Board of Trustees, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery

Butty Montgomery

Auditor of State

March 17, 2004



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AMHERST PUBLIC LIBRARY

LORAIN COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED MAY 13, 2004