

from the DIRECTOR

Facts are friendly and they help us serve you better! We have been looking at library usage and statistics in order to meet the needs of you, our community.

From books to movies to programs, we have been looking at our library and thinking about what you might need.

We are evaluating the formats we purchase whether it be books, eBooks, large-print books or audiobooks. However, nothing is more helpful than talking to you!

If you need something, please let us know. You can always talk to me or fill out a form for our suggestion box. Our goal is to do our best to serve the Vermilion community.

Holly Manning Lynn



Meet new friends, try new things

Get out of the house and get into something new – at your library! Every week, friends and neighbors get together at Ritter for book clubs, craft projects, volunteer work and more. You're invited to join the fun. Play board games, learn origami or talk about technology. There are clubs for teens, kids, adults and families. Look inside for all the details, then mark your calendar and join us!



A LASTING TRIBUTE

Janet Bertoni was a great reader and a great lover of books. Dave Arnold knew how to work with his hands.

Both have left lasting tributes to their hometown library. The Bertoni family has donated \$30,000 in Janet's name. Dave's wife, Lois, has given \$5,000 in loving memory of her husband.

"Janet was a great user of the library," said Rev. Louis Bertoni, her husband of 58 years, "so it seemed like the natural thing to do."

She was also skilled at using modern technology and so the Bertonis have directed that some of the funds be used to purchase a Macintosh computer.

Dave Arnold spent countless hours building shelves for the Friends of Ritter book sale and working on other projects at the library with Lois, a Friend and also a Ritter trustee.

She directed the Arnold bequest be used for repairs or maintenance projects.

"Dave was the kind of guy people would



Rev. Louis Bertoni and his son, Steven, with Holly Lynn, library director.

turn to when they needed something fixed and his answer was always, 'no problem'. He'd be really happy that this money will be used to take care of fixing the little things that come up."

For information about how you can donate, call Director Holly Lynn at 440-967-3798.



Janet Bertoni



David Arnold

Clubs!

Try something new and meet new friends – join a club at your library.

Of course we've got book clubs! The afternoon club is for people who don't care to drive at night. We have another club that meets in the evening, for those who aren't available during the day.

Play the latest games – bring yours or try one of ours – at the board-game club. Work on your project with the weekly knitting club, or bring in your



digital device and talk strategy with the technology club. Anime Club is for teens who love Japanese pop culture. Check the online calendar for details.

Got a different club in mind? Give us a call and let's talk about it.



Swap stuff with craft club

In March, the craft club for adults is holding a swap. Clean out your craft cabinet or work table and go home with something new.

Gather up materials you no longer use but which are in good condition and bring them in between March 19–24. We'll accept clean supplies for hobbies such as sewing, painting, needlework or

general crafting, as well as patterns and books. Please organize similar items in baggies and plastic containers.

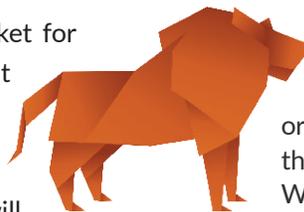
Donors will get a ticket for early admission, at 10 am on Saturday, March 25. The swap opens to the public at 11 am. All items will be free; bring a tote to take home all your new treasures.

The day will also include a fun craft project, coffee and cookies. Please be sure to register so we can plan. All leftovers will be donated to charity.

The craft club meets one Wednesday a month. Check the calendar for details.



- **Dr. Seuss's Birthday Party** Seuss-tacular stories, games, crafts and a snack. For ages 2–5. Registration required. Wednesday, March 1 / 10 am
- **STEAM Storytime** Stories and hands-on projects and experiments for homeschool families. Tuesday, March 14 / 12:30 pm
- **Tech at 10** Bring in your cell phone, laptop or other device and trade tips and tricks and get some answers. Tuesday, March 21 / 10 am
- **Adult Craft** Make a scented card or stationary. Choose the essential oil that fits the occasion. Register, please. Wednesday, March 22 / 6:30 pm
- **Teen Craft Week** Something new every day during spring break. For 6th–12th grades. March 27–31 / 2 pm
- **Ohio's First Ladies** Hear the stories of the women of the White House who hailed from the Buckeye State. Sunday, April 9 / 1 pm



Your health

Mind + body for wellness

What you do defines you. Learn effective practices to reduce anxiety and stress at a free program Thursday, Feb. 23 at 7 pm.

Bethany K. Springer is a certified yoga instructor and wellness educator on the staff at Lorain County Community College.

She'll teach techniques for starting and sustaining a daily wellness program including meditation and breathing. Reserve your spot today.

Library funds cut

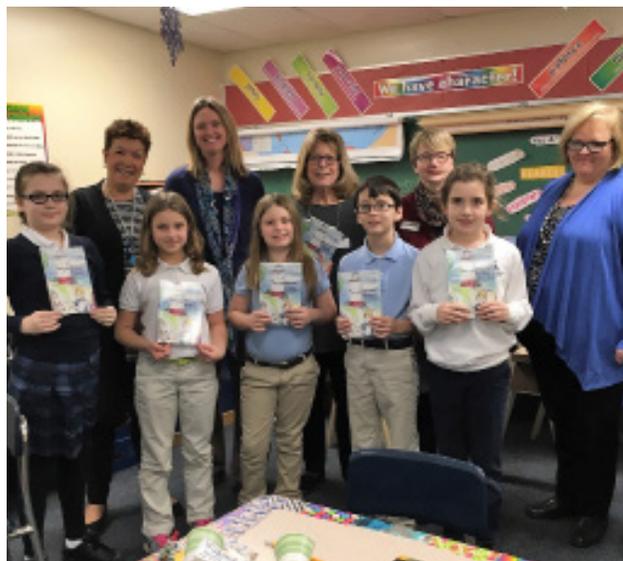
Library funding has been cut once again in Gov. John Kasich's budget proposal for the next biennium. The cut will take effect July 1, unless lawmakers act to change it.

Today, libraries are receiving about 16 percent less from the state. Proposed tax reforms will cut funding further, making libraries depend even more on local support.

books for SCHOOLS

Friends of Ritter, the library's active volunteer group, donated dozens of books to third-grade students in Vermilion.

The book, "A Lighthouse Mystery" was written by local resident and longtime Friend, Joette McDonald, to celebrate the recent re-lighting of the town landmark. Friends provided funds for the printing of the books.



Discovering your story

Another active group at Ritter are people researching their family history. Now amateur genealogists can get together to work on their personal projects in a group the third Saturday of every month.

Spread out at your own table and network with others, use equipment including a scanner, printer, copier and laptops, and bring your questions to our experts on the scene.

Most meetings will be informal work sessions, but speakers will be scheduled throughout the year. Bring along a cup of your favorite morning beverage, with a lid, please, and we'll provide some goodies.

Please register by phone or on the online calendar so we can plan.



Seniors fine free

Don't forget - senior citizens are now fine free at Ritter.

Cardholders who are 60 years old and older will not be charged overdue fines for items they borrow.

Charges will still apply for items that are lost or damaged.



GIFTS TO RITTER

- In memory of John Markworth from Steven & Patricia Farley
- In memory of Joan Valachek from Steven & Patricia Farley
- In memory of David Arnold from Steven & Patricia Farley
- In memory of Matthew Moes from Steven & Patricia Farley
- From Ken & Nancy Bliss

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rick Van Den Bossche, president

Dan Dropko, vice president

Lois Arnold, secretary

Tim Costello

Zack Dolyk

Nancy Gibbons

Marie Warden

ENDOWMENT BOARD

Pat Farley, president

David Berns, vice president

Judy Nagy, secretary

Laura Roth

Thomas Zeck

For complete program guide and up-to-date details, go to www.ritterpubliclibrary.org

Hours

Mon - Thurs 9:30 am - 8:30 pm

Fri - Sat 9:30 am - 5:30 pm

Sunday 1 - 5 pm

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Birding!



Enjoy the outdoors more and try birding, one of the fastest growing hobbies in America!

Local resident and avid birder, Tammy Martin, talks about her first international birding trip in 2015 to central Panama, on Thursday, March 16 at 7 pm.

She'll talk about helpful travel tips, incredible bird discoveries and the fascinating relationships between plants and wildlife in the neotropics.

Bernie Master, who is an internationally recognized conservationist, has a birding life list that includes more than three-quarters of the world's bird species – more than 7,800 birds. He is the first American to see a representative of every bird family in the world!

Hear his story at Ritter on Tuesday, April 25 at 7 pm. Reserve your seat today. Call 440-967-3798 or sign up online.

STORYTIMES

Storytimes at Ritter Public Library are for little ones and the whole family! The next session starts March 6. Choose the time that fits your schedule and join us. No need to sign up ahead of time.

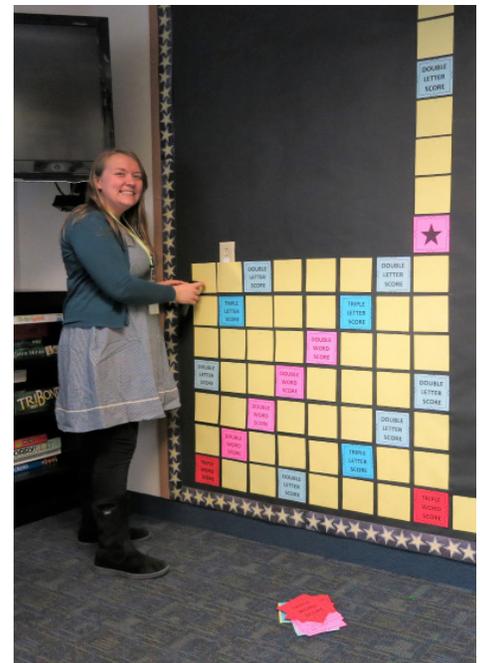
Baby storytime is for infants up to 2 years old, with an adult, on Wednesdays at 11 am.

Toddler storytime is for ages 2 to 3½ years old, with an adult. It meets on Wednesdays at 10 am.

Preschool storytime is for ages 3½ to 5 years old, with an adult. It meets Mondays at 10 am and again at 1:15 pm.

Storytime for the whole family is in the evening at 6:30 pm. This session, we're offering it on alternating Tuesdays and Wednesdays to serve more families.

Go to www.ritterpubliclibrary.org and check the calendar for all the dates.



Fun for teens

The teen department at Ritter is a lively spot for older kids. Check out the “bored board” for something fun every day. Or try the giant Scrabble game. Browse for books in the specialty collection, which is always changing.