



CONNECTIONS

VERMILION, OHIO • SPRING 2016 / VOLUME 24, ISSUE 1

from the new DIRECTOR

“It has been a great pleasure meeting so many new people in Vermilion! I am honored to be at The Ritter Public Library. The library staff, board of trustees and friends of the library are all exceptional.

Thank you for the warm welcome. If I haven't met you, please introduce yourself.

As I meet new people, I often get questions about the future of libraries. My answer is that libraries are evolving to meet the needs of their communities.

Although books continue to be important, we provide a long list of services - including computer classes, educational and social programs, and places to meet. In short, we are your community center.”

Holly Manning Lynn



Ritter's on Twitter!
@RitterVermilion

plus

Find us on Facebook!



Local resident John Hill shares his story about hiking on the Appalachian Trail at a program at Ritter.

TEAMING UP AS TOWN'S COMMUNITY CENTER

When you're looking to connect with our community, head to Ritter Public Library! Find interesting programs about local townspeople and our history, valuable information about government services and technology, as well as friends and neighbors to get together with over crafts or book talks.

Ritter is teaming up with local groups and organizations as part of our mission to serve as Vermilion's community center. We're working to bring Vermilionites

together to focus on our town's history, challenges and accomplishments.



We're also partnering with the city, schools and other agencies to connect you with services and information you need to make informed decisions.

Check our calendar of events to see how you can get connected with our community.

Meet me at the library!

Scout troops, knitting clubs, book groups, and city commissions, even kids who study and friends who play cards - these are all people who gather every week at Ritter.

Your group or organization can meet at the library too.

• **The Community Room** holds around 100 people. It has a computer and projection screen for presentations, and includes a kitchen for serving refreshments.

• **The Endowment Room** is for groups of up to 12 people and **the Lower-level Conference Room** holds about 16.

• **The Group Study Room** is great for people working on a project together and has a white board.

• **Study Rooms** provide quiet with a closed door.

• **The Ritter Room** is ideal for cards or games.



Isaac Drost and his sons Eli and Caleb use the Awe stations for a great early learning experience. The machines are loaded with educational software.

Get friendly with technology

It's easy to choose and use a new tablet, ereader or smartphone when you've got an expert to ask!

Take one of our regularly scheduled classes, or sign up for one-on-one help, to really learn how to use your device and free library services.



Our next series of basic classes begins Friday, May 13 at 10 a.m. Come back on Friday, May 20 at 10 a.m. to learn how to download ebooks and more. Learn how to use social media, including Twitter and Instagram, and how to stream movies and TV shows on Friday, May 27 at 10 a.m.

If these times don't work for you, or you'd like personal assistance, call 440-967-3798 to make an appointment. Sign up for classes on the calendar at www.ritterpubliclibrary.org.

Deadly plagues of yesteryear

More than 100 years ago, influenza, typhoid and pneumonia were the leading causes of death in America, with devastating effects on small towns.

Medical lecturer and patient advocate Tom Strong, from Westlake, talks about the history of infectious diseases at a special program Monday, May 9 at 7 p.m. He'll also talk about the various drugs, treatments and vaccines that have evolved in the last century.

This program is co-sponsored by the Vermilion Area Archival Society and Ritter.

CRAFTING FOR ADULTS

Make a patriotic-style craft to decorate your home - just in time for Memorial Day! Join our popular new crafting program for adults on Wednesday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. All supplies will be provided. Please let us know you're coming so we can plan. Call 440-967-3798 or register on the calendar at www.ritterpubliclibrary.org.



BOOK CLUBS!

Enjoy a book talk with friends and neighbors at Ritter!

The Classics Book Club meets in the evening every first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. This group takes on those classic titles you wish you'd read in school!

- **May:** "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith
- **June:** "Summer and Smoke" by Tennessee Williams
- **July:** "A Passage to India" by E.M. Forster

The Shorelines Book Club gets together in the afternoon, every third Thursday at 1 p.m. They read more contemporary titles.

- **April:** "Still Life with Breadcrumbs" by Anna Quindlen
- **May:** "The Namesake" by Jhumpa Lahiri
- **June:** "My Beloved World" by Sonia Sotomayor

There's even a book club for kids in grades 3 to 5:

- **April 19:** "Lost in the Sun" by Lisa Graff
- **May 24:** "Courage for Beginners" by Karen Harrington
- **June 21:** "The BFG" by Roald Dahl

Copies of all these titles will be available at the customer service desk. Stop by and pick one up. Then join us for a lively conversation!



Angie Folley and Ann White, Ritter staff; Lura Hall and Mary Lou Foisy, Friends of Ritter; and Marie Warden, trustee.

Volunteering in Vermilion

Ritter shows it cares about the community by regularly volunteering around Vermilion.

Staff, Friends of Ritter and members of the library's boards rang the bell for the Salvation Army in December. Last month, they helped out at Grace's Kitchen, which serves meals every week at Trinity Lutheran Church.

little free LIBRARY

Residents of the Harbortown Mobile Home Park have a new Little Free Library, thanks to Friends of Ritter. They can borrow a book and return one, with no obligation.

The library will be stocked and maintained by the Friends, whose mission is to promote reading. A second library is to be placed by the Vermilion YMCA.



Bill Reising built the library to look just like Ritter! Reising, who used to act and build sets for the Workshop Players community theater group, donated his time and some of the materials for the job.

Saving with coupons

Rachel Krych will help you save money when you shop. Learn her tips for stretching your budget with coupons and other saving techniques at a free program Wednesday, April 27 at 6:30 p.m. Krych writes a couponing blog and a local newspaper column. She'll share her methods for making the most of your money!



Appalachian storytelling

The beauty of West Virginia will come to life in an evening of songs and stories by Virgil Smith on Tuesday, May 24 at 7 p.m.

Smith, who is an author, photographer and musician, will tell his tale of growing up in Appalachia, where the land and the isolation build strength, character and faith. He'll perform some songs on his dobro guitar and read from his book "Where the Whippoorwill Sings: Poems from an Appalachian Heart."



Preserving your book collection

Extend the life of the books you own to preserve your collection. Learn how from an expert book-maker and restoration professional on Tuesday, April 26 at 7 p.m.

Local resident Kerri Harding, who also teaches letterpress printing at Oberlin College and will teach this summer at the Cleveland Institute of Art, will talk about some low-cost and no-cost steps you can take to keep your books and papers safe from common problems.

Do you have a special family heirloom, such as a yearbook or Bible, you want to protect? Harding will also present some more serious conservation techniques.

FUN FOR KIDS!

Saturday mornings are fun for kids at Ritter.

- LEGO Club meets Saturdays, April 16, 30 and May 21. Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade can drop by anytime between 10 a.m. and noon and get creative!
- Our canine friend Rusty will visit the children's department Saturday, May 7 from 10 to 11 a.m. He's a specially trained Australian Shepherd who loves to listen while kids practice reading.
- The Pokemon League is Saturday, May 28 from 10 a.m. to noon. Kids ages 6 to 13 can bring their cards and have some fun!



GIFTS TO RITTER

- In memory of Janet Bertoni from Stuart Naegele
- In memory of Janet Bertoni from Dan and Tammy Martin
- In honor of Janet Ford from Lorain County Public Library Directors
- from Donald & Rita Blandford
- from David & Roberta Berns
- from Dick & Debby Zanglin

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rick Van Den Bossche, president
Marie Warden, vice president
Lois Arnold, secretary
Tim Costello
Zack Dolyk
Dan Dropko
Nancy Gibbons

ENDOWMENT BOARD

Judy Nagy, president
Kathy Arnold
David Berns
Pat Farley
Candace Fischer
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

5680 Liberty Ave.
Vermilion, OH 44089
440-967-3798

Life on the river with Tom Moes

Throughout its history, Vermilion has been shaped by its home along the lake shore and the banks of the river.

Local resident and historian Tom Moes, whose family was among the early settlers of Vermilion, presents a history of Vermilion's life along the water on Tuesday, May 3 at 7 p.m.

He'll share pictures from his collection, as well as other historical documents, as he talks about Vermilion's beginnings as the Fire Lands, its growth in the shipbuilding business and its new role in the world of recreational fishing and boating.

This program is co-sponsored by the College Club of Vermilion and Ritter.



Beautiful music!

Cleveland violinist Mary Beth Ions brings her one-woman show to Ritter Tuesday, May 17 at 7 p.m.

Ions will entertain with all kinds of music, from Broadway to light classical, patriotic tunes and even requests from the audience! Ions has performed with the Cleveland Pops, ballet and opera orchestras, as well as touring Broadway shows.

This program is made possible with generous support from Friends of Ritter. No reservation needed.

Sensory storytime

Sensory Storytime is for children with special needs, including autism, and their parents.

It's 30 minutes of multi-sensory stories, activities and movement. All ages are welcome; content is geared toward ages 3 to 8 approximately. The next session is Saturday, May 7 at 11 a.m.



Present this coupon at the customer service desk and get \$1 off late fines.

Or take \$1 off your purchase from the Friends of Ritter's ongoing book sale.

*One-time use only;
No cash value*

RITTER PUBLIC LIBRARY
5680 Liberty Ave.
Vermilion, OH 44089

