

from the DIRECTOR

This summer, we distributed a library survey for our new strategic plan. Thank you for taking the time to respond.

We received many complimentary comments about us. We also received some constructive criticism. To be honest, I want to thank you for both!

Our hope is to evolve to meet the needs of our community. To do that, we need to look at all the responses.

No doubt about it, libraries are changing. Technology - computers, e-books, electronic magazines, etc. - has changed the way we do business.

However, almost all of you shared your love of books. It was by far the favorite response. Rest assured, we will continue to provide books, as well, as we shape the future of library services.

Holly Manning Lynn



KIDS – AND PARENTS TOO – ENJOYING TIME TOGETHER

Little ones learn simple skills at storytimes that help them become good readers. Their parents and caregivers benefit too!

Meet other adults at storytimes who share the same experiences and spend a few minutes afterward relaxing, talking and trading parenting tips and stories.

Browse the stacks and let our trained library staff help you find exactly what

you and your child are looking for.

Whether you work during the day or you're the grandparent, or if your child is a baby or nearly ready for school, you can find the storytime that's just right for your family and schedule. Check the online calendar for all the dates and times or call 440-967-3798.

Sneak peek at centennial plans

Next year, Ritter Public Library marks its 100th anniversary! Celebrate the centennial with us all year long with special events and programs you won't want to miss.

The focus will be on the unique stories of Vermilion and the people who make it a great place to live. Watch for our new oral history series featuring live interviews with local residents.

Enjoy customer appreciation events including give-aways and more.

Plus, mark your calendar now for the free, community-wide picnic Sunday, July 22 in Victory Park.



Public guides Ritter's plans

Answers and ideas from local residents will help the library decide how to plan for the future.

A public survey conducted by Ritter this summer drew responses from 260 people about how they use the library, and which programs and services they think are important to the community.

Those answers will be used by library trustees and staff as they create a strategic plan to guide Ritter's progress.

Books and videos are tops with people of all ages who took the survey. People under the age of 30 say they use the library for computers as well as study and research, and socializing.

Those 30 and older say they also like programs and classes, and new releases.

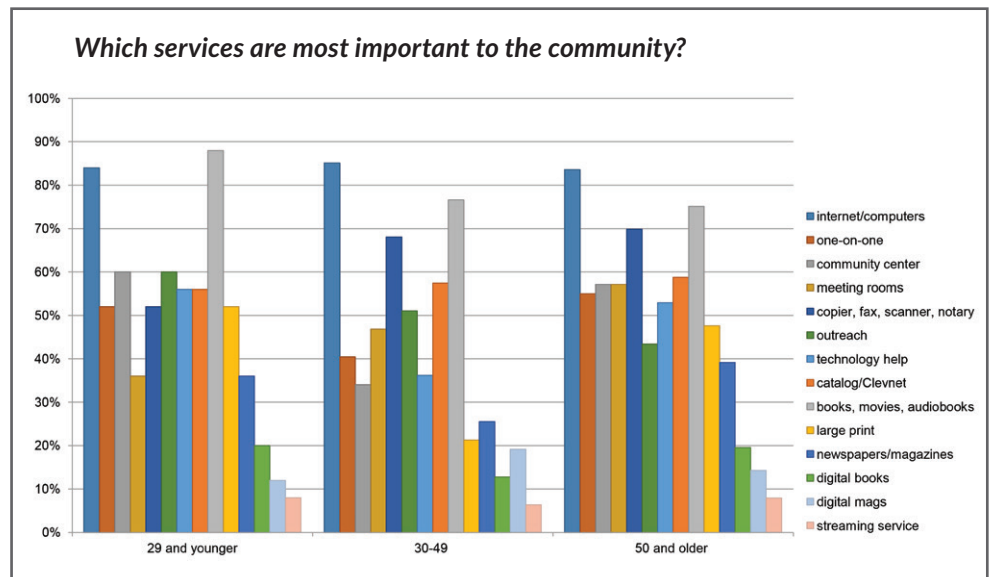
Destination: DOWNLOAD

Learn how to get movies, music, TV shows, e-books, audiobooks and more on your digital device.

You can do it. We'll show you how.

Take just 20 minutes and you'll be able to use Overdrive, Hoopla, Flipster and more and really get the most out of your book reader, tablet, smartphone or other device.

We've got both afternoon and evening



All ages agree that the most important service to the community is providing access to the internet on public computers, as well as providing books and videos.

And all ages also agree that programs for children and teens are important. Those under 30 say book clubs and health and wellness programs are important.

Respondents 30 and older say local history and technology programs are important.

Trustees and staff are working together now to determine goals and the steps to achieve them. The new strategic plan will cover the next three years and is expected to be completed this fall.

More funding cuts

State funding for Ritter has been cut once again. Ohio's two-year budget approved in June cut funding for public libraries.

Funds were reduced from 1.7 percent of the general revenue fund to 1.68 percent. Since 2001, state funding for libraries has dropped 24 percent. As support from the state drops, Ritter relies more on support from local property tax levies.

What's news around the library

Money-saver

The library lighting system is being updated to be more efficient and economical too. Fluorescent lights are being replaced with energy-saving LED bulbs. The project will be done this fall.

Dewey color!

It'll soon be easier to find what you're looking for in the children's department. Books are being re-organized by subject with easy-to-read color coding.

Donate your yearbook

Do you have old Vermilion High School yearbooks you no longer need? Donate them to Ritter. The library keeps copies available for reference.

Tours available

Ritter offers walking tours for you or your group. Tour the lake captains' homes, walk in historic downtown or see Ritter's award-winning green building. Please call ahead for reservations.



Retired? or not Get involved in fun!

Every month, find fun things to do at Ritter. Please check the calendar for updates.

During the day:

Craft Club, every first Wednesday at 1 pm

Technology Club, every third Thursday at 10 am

Shorelines Book Club, every third Thursday at 1 pm

Genealogy Club, every third Saturday from 10 am to noon

Coloring & Meditation, every fourth Friday at 10 am

In the evening:

Classics Book Club, every first Monday at 7 pm

Board Game Club, every second Tuesday at 6 pm

Craft Club, every fourth Wednesday at 6:30 pm

QUILTERS

We're making a quilt as part of Ritter's centennial celebration. And you can help!

Experienced sewers who want to stitch a square can sign up by calling Linda Ehrnschwender at 440-967-3798. Pick up fabric and directions before the next meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 6:30 pm. Blocks are to be completed by Dec. 6.

After the new year, anyone can join an open quilting bee to help stitch - no experience needed! Everyone who works on the quilt can add their name to the border.

Watch the calendar for days and times for quilting bees.

New day for tech club

Want to get better at using technology? Do you have questions about your smartphone, tablet, ereader or laptop?

Bring your device and your questions and get answers at Ritter's technology club. The group has moved to a new meeting day - the third Thursday of the month at 10 am in the Ritter Room.

After school for teens

Teens get together every Wednesday at 3 pm for Wii fun. Anime Club is every first Friday of the month at 3:30 pm. Teen trivia is on Thursdays at 4 pm; check the calendar for dates. Un-Makerspace is every fourth Monday at 3:30 pm.



GIFTS TO RITTER

Nancy & Ken Bliss
 Barb & Terry Brady
 Tom Burkley
 David Cornahan
 Maryellen & Bruce Cudney
 Lorye & Dan Dohar
 John & Marie Faltay
 Mary Callahan Jones
 Judith Klucas
 Joanne McClaferty
 Martin & Marjorie Piwowar
 Susi & Michael Socha
 Lynda & Read Wakefield

IN MEMORY OF
 DAVID ARNOLD
 Lois Arnold

IN MEMORY OF
 FLORENCE BROWN:
 William & Katherine Jugus
 Patricia & Bruce Keller
 Judy Nagy
 Nancy & David Sabo
 Debbie Schwensen
 Monica & Trent Trusley
 Vixens Red Hat Club

IN MEMORY OF
 AMANDA GRINDLAY
 Tuesday Morning Retired
 Teachers' Breakfast Group

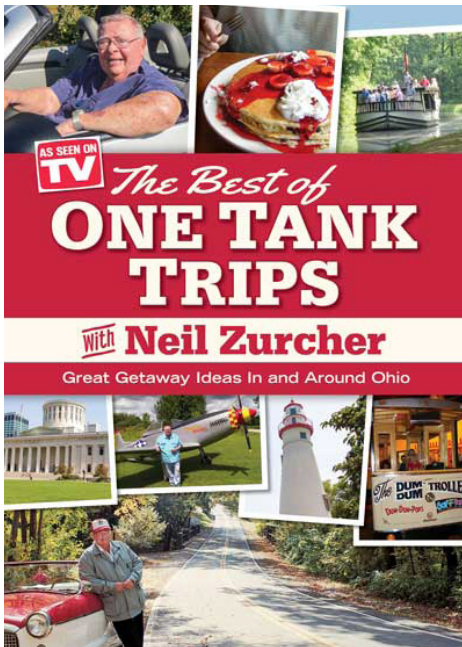
IN MEMORY OF
 GEORGE MAYER
 Sue & Peter Hanley

IN MEMORY OF
 NORMA OLMER
 Wayne Wilber

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



Neil Zurcher brings his "One Tank Trip" stories to Ritter Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 7 pm. Zurcher, a retired Cleveland television news reporter, is author of the series of books based on his travel segments for Fox News in Cleveland. Zurcher spent years travelling backroads and highways in search of offbeat and amazing attractions.

CRYSTAL BEACH

Take a step back in time and relive memories of Crystal Beach, the famous local picnic grove, dance hall and amusement park that operated in Vermilion during the early 1900s. Hear Marlene Feldkamp and Sandra Mueller, whose grandparents started Crystal Beach, Monday, Oct. 30 at 7 pm.

Electric railway!

Ride the rails with Dennis Lamont as he presents photos and short videos of the Lake Shore Electric Railway Monday, Nov. 13 at 7 pm. The first street car arrived in Vermilion in 1901. The railway ran from Cleveland to Toledo, with thrilling rides at speeds between 60-80 miles per hour.

Craft club grows

Our popular craft club for adults now includes a new afternoon session the first Wednesday of every month at 1 pm. The evening session meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Check the calendar for details and to reserve your seat.

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 Zack Dolyk
 Nancy Gibbons
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