

"In February there is everything to hope for and nothing to regret."

— Patience Strong

BUZZ

The official newsletter of Rodman Public Library

RPL Director Appointed to State Library Board

Eric Taggart is the newest member of the State Library Board.

The director of Rodman Public Library, Taggart was appointed to the post by the director of the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce in December and was sworn in as a member of the five-person body that oversees the State Library of Ohio on Thursday, January 18 during a ceremony in Columbus.

His term will run through December 31, 2028.

"I feel quite honored to be appointed to this board and I am excited to serve in this capacity," said Taggart. "The State Library of Ohio has a really talented staff, and over my career, I have worked with a number of them. The State Library does so much for Ohio's libraries and residents, and I am looking forward to being a part of that."

The State Library of Ohio develops, maintains, provides, and disseminates information, library materials, and services to Ohio's libraries, state government, and residents. Services include collections and hands-on services, expert assistance, digitized resources, electronic materials and more.

As part of those services, it oversees the collaborative summer reading program, statewide delivery service of library materials, the Serving Every Ohioan (SEO) Library Consortium, and offers in-person and virtual training to library staff.

Taggart, who has served as the director of Rodman Public Library since February 2018, also serves on the Northeast Ohio Regional Library System Board as well as the SEO Advisory Committee.



TAGGART

Spend Take Your Child to the Library Day at Rodman Public Library

Rodman Public Library encourages all caregivers to bring their little ones in for a visit on Saturday, February 3, which is Take Your Child to the Library Day.

During an open house between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., kids will be able to find their favorite storybook characters during a scavenger hunt in the children's area, play a game of Spot the Difference, spin the prize wheel, and collect a take home craft.

No registration is required to take part in that fun.

At 2 p.m., kids can play BINGO in the children's area and children's prizes will be awarded to the winners. Only children will be given BINGO cards.

BINGO is free, however, space is limited and children must be registered online at rodmanlibrary.com



Whale Watching & Animal Communication

Lynne Kelly's *Song for a Whale*, features 12-year-old Iris, who as the only deaf girl in her school, feels isolated. When she learns of Blue 55, a whale who cannot communicate with other whales because of his odd frequency, she creates a song for him and is determined to get it to him to show him that he is not alone. The plot brings up questions of how animals communicate and what it is like to go looking for a whale. Two programs in February will explore those topics.

FEBRUARY

13

Tuesday

11 a.m. OR 7 p.m.

Aquarium of the Pacific to take patrons on virtual whale watch

Living in Ohio, it's impossible for Alliance residents to go out looking for whales, so Aquarium of the Pacific, located in Long Beach, California, is bringing the whales to Rodman Public Library – virtually, of course.

See *AQUARIUM* on Page 5

Akron Zoomobile to discuss how animals talk to each other

Have you ever wondered how animals talk to each other?

The Akron ZooMobile will visit Rodman Public Library on Saturday, February 24 and talk just about that.

See *ZOO* on Page 5

FEBRUARY

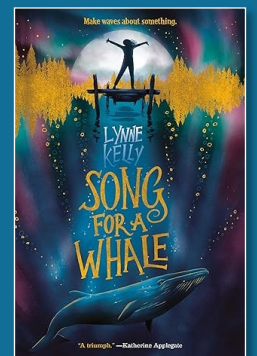
24

Saturday

1 - 1:45 p.m.

OR

2 - 2:45 p.m.



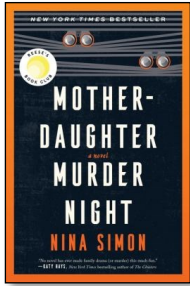
ON SALE NOW

Copies of the One Book One Community selection for 2024, *Song for a Whale* by Lynne Kelly, are on sale now at both the Main and Branch libraries at the cost of \$8.99 plus tax.

BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS

For a look at future Book Club selections, visit rodmanlibrary.com/Rodman-Book-Clubs

BOOKS & COFFEE

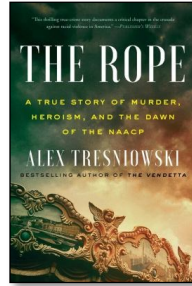


Meets every second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Branch Library.

February 12
Mother-Daughter Murder Night
by
Nina Simon

Call 330-821-1313 for information.

TRUE CRIME JUNKIES

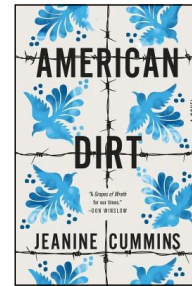


Meets every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

February 20
The Rope:
A True Story of Murder, Heroism, and the Dawn of the NAACP
by Alex Tresniowski

Call 330-821-2665, ext. 215 for information.
Registration required at rodmanlibrary.com

RPL EVENING BOOK CLUB



Meets every fourth Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the Main Library.

February 26
American Dirt
by
Jeanne Cummins

Call 330-821-2665 for information.

ONGOING PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS AT RPL

Alliance Vinyl Club

Open to all music lovers, Alliance Vinyl Club will undergo a schedule change in 2024, meeting every other month. The group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each even-numbered month — February, April, June, August, October, and December — inside the Main Library auditorium. Supported by Friends of Rodman Public Library, AVC provides the opportunity to listen to music, hang out, and make new friends. Those attending are encouraged to bring some of their favorite records to share a selection or two with others. Although it is called a club, there is no formal membership and no registration is required to attend the program. For more information about Alliance Vinyl Club, call 330-821-2665, ext. 216.

Wednesday, February 7 at 6:30 p.m.



Maker Monday

Maker Monday crafters will create a sock snowman when they meet for February's session inside Rodman Public Library's Main Auditorium.

Maker Monday is an in-person craft program for adults that is held monthly on select Mondays. All materials are provided free of charge, thanks to Friends of Rodman Library, but space is limited and registration is required for each session.

To register for Maker Monday sessions, call 330-821-2665, ext. 210 or visit Rodman Public Library's online calendar at rodmanlibrary.com.

Monday, February 19 at 6 p.m.



Knit Wits

The Knit Wits, a circle for needleworkers of all types and skill levels, meets at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month at the Main Library. The group welcomes new members and any donations of yarn. For information, call 330-821-2665, ext. 204.

Mondays, February 12 & 26 at 10 a.m.

TECH Time Thursday

A librarian is on hand each Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon at the Main Library Information Center to answer basic questions about your electronic devices, including laptop computers, iPhones, Android phones, and tablets. No registration is needed. For information, call 330-821-2665, ext. 217.

Thursdays from 11 a.m. to noon



Chess Club

The Rodman Chess Club is open to patrons of all ages who have an interest in the classic board game. Come make new friends and explore the ancient game of

strategy. The club, which has no formal membership, meets at 5:30 p.m. every third Wednesday of the month. No registration required. For information, call 330-821-2665, ext. 216.

Wednesday, February 21 at 5:30 p.m.

Writers' Alliance

Writers' Alliance, a group for those who like to create with words and share their work with others, meets every fourth Monday of the month at RPL. All are welcome to the group, facilitated by John Milan. No registration is required. For information, call Milan at 330-581-1437.

Monday, February 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Want to help support RPL?

Join the Friends of Rodman Public Library by calling 330-821-2665 or by visiting any of the service desks.
\$5 for an individual membership /
\$25 for a patron membership



MAIN LIBRARY

215 E. Broadway St.
Alliance, Ohio 44601
330.821.2665

BRANCH LIBRARY

1808 W. State St.
Alliance, OH 44601
330.821.1313

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday through Wednesday: 10 a.m. — 8 p.m.

Thursday & Friday: 10 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Sunday:

Main Library — Closed

Branch Library — 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
(October through April only)

rodmanlibrary.com

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RPL is VITA drop-off spot again in 2024

Rodman Public Library will serve as a drop-off location for the United Way of Greater Stark County's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program.

Trained VITA volunteers help qualifying individuals file returns for free, looking for all possible deductions and credits. The free tax preparation service is available to households that earn less than \$60,000 per year.

VITA is now taking appointments to check for eligibility and to schedule drop-offs for February through April for the 2023 tax return season. An appointment is needed for all drop-offs. Those wishing to take advantage of the VITA program should visit uwstark.org/vita to schedule an appointment. For information, call 330-994-VITA (8482).



AQUARIUM

From Page 1

As part of the One Book One Community program, patrons will be able to take part in the program from the comfort of their own homes or come to the library and watch it on the big screen in the auditorium either at 11 a.m. or 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13.

Participants will first learn what a naturalist or explorer would bring on a boat and how to look for whales before "heading out to sea" in

search of whales. A mix of pictures and videos will be used to explore different whales, including the blue whale like Blue 55 in *Song for a Whale* by Lynne Kelly, the 2024 selection. Aquarium personnel will talk about the adaptations and habitats of the whales.

Both in-person and virtual participants must register online at rodmanlibrary.com. Those registering to view the program virtually will be provided with instructions at the time of registration.

MARCH PROGRAMS

Two One Book One Community programs will be held in March ahead of author Lynne Kelly's visit on March 21.

"Deaf Culture in Alliance"

MARCH

9

Saturday

1 p.m.

RPL Auditorium

Alliance High School American Sign Language teacher Deana Collins will host an informative session with deaf culture in the area and her experience teaching at AHS.

"A Personal Journey"

Susan McConnell, instructor of ALS at the University of Mount Union, will share her family story of raising her son, who lost his hearing at a very early age and a grandson who is on the same journey.

MARCH

12

Tuesday

7 p.m.

RPL Auditorium

ZOO

From Page 1

Zoo personnel will be on hand for two identical programs on Saturday, February 24 – one from 1 to 1:45 p.m. and another from 2 to 2:45 p.m.

The same information about animal communication, including non-verbal communication, will be presented at each session and patrons should register for just one of the sessions at rodmanlibrary.com.

Those who attend will also get to meet an animal ambassador or two from the Akron Zoo.

PG-13
1 Hour, 45 Minutes
Movie Licensing USA®
A Division of Swank Motion Pictures, Inc. • The Swank, Chairman

FREE ADMISSION • FREE POPCORN

Saturday, February 17
1:00 p.m.
Rodman Auditorium

CHILDREN UNDER 13 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

PG-13
2 Hours, 38 Minutes
Movie Licensing USA®
A Division of Swank Motion Pictures, Inc. • The Swank, Chairman

FREE ADMISSION • FREE POPCORN

Monday, February 19
1:00 p.m.
Rodman Auditorium

CHILDREN UNDER 13 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

Rodman

Staff Spotlight



NANCY DRAKULICH

A member of the technical processing staff who has been with RPL for 42 years.

"I catalog children materials and DVDs and make repairs. I also occasionally help in the children and bookmobile departments."

What is your favorite part about your job?

The gratification knowing that after materials have been ordered, received, cataloged, and finished, now patrons can enjoy them.

What is your favorite food or snack?

Ice cream.

What is your favorite color?

Red.

What is your favorite movie?

Sabrina.

Who is your favorite musical artist?

Mostly country. ... Morgan Wallen, Luke Combs, Cody Johnson, Jason Aldean. ...

Who is your favorite actor/actress?

Sam Elliott and Julia Roberts.

Do you collect anything?

Plants. (Come look in my office).

Do you have any pets?

Yes. Four cats. Ellie Mae (female), Snyder (male), Pepper (female), and Jasper (male).

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Cooking and spending time with family and friends.

What are three words that describe you?

Dedicated. Loyal. Energetic.

Do you have a favorite saying or motto you try to live by?

"It is not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself." – Eleanor Roosevelt

If you could visit anywhere, where would it be?

Go out Route 66 all the way to California and stop along the way, and go up the East Coast in the fall.

Who was the biggest influence in your life?

My dad.

What was your first car?

1978 Malibu Classic.

LOOKING BACK



Alliance's Carnegie Library had a tradition known as Farmer's Day, which was commemorated each year to supply library materials on farming to the library. The first of a series of Farmer's Day exhibits was held on February 20, 1946 in the basement and auditorium of the Carnegie Free Library. It included an exhibit of books, bulletins, and other library materials of interest to area farmers. It also had information on how to get a free borrower's card if you were a resident of Stark, Mahoning, or Columbiana Counties. This picture is one of hundreds of photos that can be found on alliancememory.org, a collaboration between Rodman Public Library and the Alliance Historical Society, a proud partner of the Alliance Preservation Society and the Castle Crusaders in preserving Alliance's history. Alliance Memory offers a view of history through photographs, personal recollections, and documents. To access RPL's online local history and genealogy resources, visit rodmanlibrary.com/genealogy. For information about how Rodman Library can connect you to local history, call 330-821-2665, ext. 217.

FEATURED DATABASE African American Heritage

African American Heritage provides detailed records for African Americans. Records include federal census, marriage and cohabitation records, military draft and service records, registers of slaves and free persons of color, Freedman's Bank, and more.

African American Heritage is one of more than 70 databases available on the RPL web-site.

You can find all databases offered by Rodman Library at rodmanlibrary.com/databases.

For information or help accessing RPL's free databases, call 330-821-2665, ext. 217.



ON THE ROAD



The RPL Bookmobile visits schools in the Alliance, Marlington, and West Branch school districts as well as Copeland Oaks between September and May.

