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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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One Book, One Community Stark County announces 2016 events Annual county-wide program hosting 2016 “Gaining Ground” programs

September 12, 2016 (Canton, Ohio) – Each year Stark County residents of all ages join together in reading a common book and sharing ideas through community conversation. The popularity of the farm-to-table movement, community gardens and farmers’ markets inspired this year’s book selection: “Gaining Ground” by Forrest Pritchard. Younger readers will read “Seedfolks” by Paul Fleischman.

“Gaining Ground” chronicles the farming adventures of Forrest Pritchard, a seventh generation farmer, as he attempts to make the family farm profitable for the first time in years. On harvest day, when five tractor-trailer loads of grain reaped a meager paycheck of \$18.16, he realized his family’s farm must radically change course. The following season, he devoted himself to farming organically and sustainable, raising free-range cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and chickens.

This year’s feature event is an evening with Forrest Pritchard at the Canton Palace Theater on the October 18 at 6:30 p.m. and will include a lively discussion, a question and answer session and a book signing. Books will be available for purchase the night of the event. In addition a series of events and activities related to “Gaining Ground” will begin October 1 and will run the entire month. See below for other “Gaining Ground” events being hosted throughout Stark County.

Planting Seeds of Kindness Art Contest: September 1-22

Using words and art, show how you grow seeds of kindness and enter the countywide art contest. Call the Stark County Educational Service Center at 330-492-8136 ext. 1585 for more information.

Project Fill a Pantry: October 1-31, all One Book, One Community Locations

Help local families in need this fall. We will be accepting non-perishable foods for the Stark Hunger Taskforce. Donation bins will be available in all One Book, One Community Locations. Perry Sippo Branch will also collect toiletries for Perry Helping Perry.

Harvest Festival: Saturday, October 1, 8 a.m.- noon, Louisville Library



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Get answers to your questions from local farmers and gardeners, and learn something new at one of the demonstrations and view live farm animals.

A Sampling of Seedfolks: Sunday, October 2, 2-4 p.m., Varian Orchards

Listen to bluegrass music and enjoy the comedic energy of The Stockdale Band. Reap the benefits of hearing inspirational narratives selected from “Seedfolks”.

Farm to Table Documentary Series: Monday October 3, 17, and 24, 7-8 p.m., Minerva Public Library

Three recent documentaries take a look at different communities going against the grain with sustainable, organic farming.

Growing Together: Tuesday, October 4, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Massillon Public Library

Join us for a One Book, One Community Open House celebrating “Gaining Ground” with stories, crafts, activities, food samples and more.

First Friday Art Harvest: Friday October 7, 5-7 p.m., Canton Museum of Art

Meet the Planting Seeds of Kindness art contest winners and view art from participating K-12 students.

How to Live Sustainable Festival: Saturday, October 8, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., North Canton Public Library

Stark Fresh delivers a variety of 45 minute classes exploring eating local, homesteading, and clean living.

Food Patriots: Wednesday, October 12, 6:30-8 p.m., Massillon Public Library

Food Patriots features food advocates from all walks of life who are trying to hatch a revolution to change the way Americans eat and buy food and educate the next generation of consumers.

Fall into Gardening: Saturday, October 15, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., Massillon Public Library

Master Gardeners in cooperation with the OSU Extension Stark Office present three sessions covering container gardening using fall materials, community gardens, and winterizing your garden.

Meet Author Forrest Pritchard: Tuesday, October 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Canton Palace Theater

New York Times Bestselling author Forrest Pritchard discusses his book, “Gaining Ground”, chronicling his farming adventures in the world of sustainable agriculture. Followed by a Q&A session and book signing.

Frontier Farming: Early Ohio Agriculture: Tuesday, October 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Massillon Public Library

Spring Hill Director Sammy Kay Smith explains and exhibits farming implements from the Ohio frontier.

“One Book, One Community Stark County allows the community to come together to share a common theme and idea. This year’s topic illustrates how family, hard work and persistence shape



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our lives,” said Julia Shaheen, One Book, One Community Stark County Committee Chair. “We are very pleased with the programs we have lined up this year, and we hope the community will come out to support their local libraries and share in the excitement!”

One Book, One Community Stark County is a collaborative effort led by several libraries in Stark County, including Canal Fulton Public Library, Louisville Public Library, Massillon Public Library, Minerva Public Library, North Canton Public Library and Stark County District Library. Each year representatives from libraries, educational systems, community organizations and volunteer groups come together to select a book and plan events throughout Stark County. This is Stark County’s 12th year participating in the program. One Book, One Community aims to encourage reading and forge community bonds across ages and backgrounds while reading and discussing the same book.

More information on One Book One Community Stark County is available at StarkLibrary.org/onebook.

ABOUT ONE BOOK ONE COMMUNITY

Community-wide reading, or "One Book," programs are designed to promote the value of reading by recommending a compelling book that links the community in a common conversation. One Book programs encourage dialogue about a particular book, but also foster lifelong learning and the development of a strong community identity. Launched in Seattle in 1998 with great success, the "One Book" concept has swept the nation, including such cities as Chicago, New York, Detroit, Philadelphia, and Houston.

ABOUT THE LIBRARY

One of the 9 largest library systems in Ohio – and the county’s oldest library -- Stark County District Library serves the community through 10 locations, six mobile libraries, and a 24/7 digital branch.

A 2009 winner of the prestigious National Medal for library service, the Library serves over 105,000 active cardholders, annually circulating 3.85 million items from its 1.4 million item collection and providing access to an additional 66 million items from lending networks throughout Ohio. Each year the library presents more than 9,000 programs for 170,000 attendees and provides 260,000 computer sessions on the publicly available computers found in each branch.

Today, as it reimagines itself as The Smart Store, where everything is free®, the Library is emerging as a national thought-leader with innovations such as its “no overdue fines” policy, the BikeSmart bike sharing network, and the Start Smart School Partnership.

For more information, call 330.452.0665 or visit <http://www.starklibrary.org>.

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Stark County District Library: Start Smart. Stay Smart. Share Smart.