

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Robert F. Belden joins Stark County District Library Board of Trustees

May 9, 2016 (Canton, Ohio) –Robert F. “Bob” Belden has been appointed to sit on the Board of Trustees for Stark County District Library. The Library’s Board of Trustees is a made up of individuals appointed by the Stark County Commissioners and the Court of Common Pleas. They are appointed for seven year terms and hold fiduciary responsibility for Stark County District Library.

Belden was appointed to the Board of Trustees by the Stark County Commissioners for a seven-year term ending in April, 2023. Belden is the chairman, president and CEO of The Belden Brick Company in Canton, representing the fourth generation of the family to manage the company. He holds a BS in Mathematics from the University of Notre Dame and an MBA in Operations Research/Management Science from the University of Michigan Graduate School of Business.

Prior to returning to Canton in 1983, he worked for the 3M Company and then purchased a membership on the Chicago Board Options Exchange and traded options as a market-maker. In 1995 he was named the President of Belden Brick, in 2008 he was named CEO, and he was named Chairman of the Board in January of this year.

Belden is looking forward to making an impact as a Library Board Trustee. "I am honored and excited to be welcomed to the Board of Trustees of the Stark County District Library. I hope and plan to make a meaningful contribution to the great work of the staff and to the future of this dynamic organization," said Belden.

Steven Pittman, Board President, is pleased that the Stark County Commissioners selected Belden to join the Board of Trustees. "I am grateful that The County Commissioners appointed such a forward-thinking trustee to the Library’s governing board. Mr. Belden joins us with a great deal of operational and management experience that will make him an asset to the Library," said Pittman.

In addition to his new involvement with the Library, Belden is affiliated with organizations, including:

Brick Industry Association - Member, Board of Directors

Canton Central Catholic High School Board – Member; Chairman, Finance & Operations Committee

Canton Central Catholic High School Education Foundation – President, Board of Directors

Canton Student Loan Foundation - Member, Board of Directors; Chairman, Membership Committee

CSA Health System – Member, Investment Committee

House of Loreto Advisory Board, Chairman
Junior Achievement of East Central Ohio – Executive Leadership Council Member
Philomatheon Society - Member, Investment Committee
Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton – Secretary, Board of Directors
SMART|dynamics of masonry, Editorial Advisory Board Member
Stark Community Foundation - Member, Investment Review Committee
Stark County Historical Society - President, Board of Directors
United Way of Greater Stark County – Treasurer, Board of Directors
Walsh University – Member, Board of Directors; Chairman, Governance Committee

The Library’s Board of Trustees is made up of the following community members in addition to Belden: Steve Pittman, President; Susan Rodgers, Vice President; Bert Nero, Secretary; Edmond Mack; John Mroczkowski and Sally Efremoff.

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.