



Main Library, DeHoff Memorial Branch, East Canton Branch, Jackson Township Branch, Lake Community Branch, Madge Youtz Branch, North Branch, Perry Sippo Branch, Plain Community Branch, Sandy Valley Branch

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Ohio Library Council Awards Friends of the Library Recognition to Lake Community Friends of the Library of the Lake Community Branch of the Stark County District Library

(Canton, Ohio)-September 15, 2014 –The Ohio Library Council annually gives a Friends of the Library Recognition Award to a Friends of the Library group that performs imaginative and effective activities that increase community awareness of its library; support library programs; and promote the mission, vision, and core values of a library. The Stark County District Library is proud to announce that the 2014 recipient is the Lake Community Branch’s Friends of the Library.

The Lake Community Friends of the Library (FOL) have been integral to the life of the Lake Community Branch since its inception because they have embraced the best goals of community library work with unflagging energy. The Lake Community FOL has been very successful in building their membership and raising money in the community, through membership dues and book sales. Their generous support is poured back into the community through the sponsorship of programs for children, teens, and adults; support of summer reading initiatives; and purchasing equipment and furnishings that the library’s budget cannot support. However, fundraising is only a small part of what they offer the community. Some of the multiple activities this group takes on include: building and maintaining the Alphabet Garden outside the branch; offering free computer training to seniors; creating and staffing a bilingual library at the Hartville Migrant Center; and packing backpacks with school supplies for migrant children returning to school in the fall.

Although the Lake Community FOL directs their time and resources toward the needs of the Lake Township community, they understand the symbiotic relationship of a branch library within the larger Stark County District Library system. These Friends support system-wide staff development days and purchase materials that move throughout the library system in the floating collection. Additionally, they have played a leadership role in every levy Stark County District Library has placed on the ballot.

About the Library:

The [Stark County District Library](#) is a winner of the [National Medal](#) for library service, is one of the best 100 libraries in the U.S. according to the [HAPLR](#) rating, and is a [Library Journal 5 Star library](#). Its Main Library, nine Branch Libraries, and two Bookmobiles and two Kidmobiles serve 150,000 library card holders. More than 1.4 million people visit the Stark County District Library each year, holdings number 884,000 items, and annual circulation is 3.6 million items. The collection includes books, audio visual materials, and periodicals for all ages. In addition, the

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Library provides programs and classes for adults, teens, and children, computer and Internet access, a downloadable collection of books and music, genealogy services, traveling collections on Bookmobiles and Kidmobiles, as well as outreach services to shut-ins, nursing homes, and housing units. It is one of the nine largest library systems in the state of Ohio, serving 12 local school districts. For more information, call 330-452-0665 or visit www.thesmartstore.org.

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