



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

715 Market Ave. N, Canton, OH 44702 – 330.452.0665

[www.starklibrary.org](http://www.starklibrary.org)

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### SCDL Offers Family Place Libraries™

**April 1, 2014** – The Stark County District Library is proud to announce two Family Place Libraries™ in the children's departments of the Main Library, 715 Market Ave. N, and the Madge Youtz Branch Library, 2921 Mahoning Road, NE. The Family Place Libraries™ offer an inviting place of play, discovery and learning for children under the age of three and their families. The Family Place Libraries™ are made possible by grant monies from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The SCDL joins 380 libraries in 27 states as part of a national network that have successfully implemented the Family Place Libraries™ model of early childhood and family services.

Family Place Libraries™ provide a welcoming, community environment with resources that families need to nurture their children's development during the critical first years of life. To help ensure all children enter school ready and able to learn, Family Place Libraries™ offer:

- A specially designed space in the children's area for families with young children to relax, play, share books and meet other families.
- Parent/Child Workshops - five week series
- Collections of books, toys, music and multimedia materials for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, parents and caregivers.
- Librarians specially trained in child development and family support.

As Family Place Libraries™, the Main Library and the Madge Youtz Branch Library will partner with local family-serving agencies and professionals to help parents of young children build foundations for early learning. Research has proven that the ways adults respond to and interact with children from birth-to-five years have dramatic effects on the brain, stimulating a child's social, emotional, and intellectual development. Parents and caregivers are their children's first teachers and the Library is here to help them. Area specialists in early childhood development will offer workshops and fun, play-based activities for toddlers and their parents and caregivers. Rich with toys, books and art activities, the workshops provide an opportunity for families to spend time together, make friends, and talk one-on-one with specialists on various aspects of child development and early literacy. See [Family Place Library™ Parent/Child Workshops](#) for more details and to register.



Madge Youtz



Main Library



The Rodriguez family enjoys the Family Place™ at Main Library.

Photos also attached.

### **About the Library:**

The [Stark County District Library](http://www.starklibrary.org) 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 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 <http://www.starklibrary.org>.

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