

FRIENDS  
OF THE  
RAY TOWNSHIP  
LIBRARY  
AND  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## BOOKMARK

April 9 – May 6  
Silent Auction  
of the Library's  
old furniture

Saturday, May 6  
10:00am - 1:00pm  
Bottle Drive  
at Fire Hall

May 11– June 6  
Library Closed -  
pick up items at  
Township Offices

Thursday, May 18  
6:00pm  
Friends of Library  
and Historical  
Society Meeting  
Ray Township  
Senior Center

Thursday, June 1  
6:30pm  
Adopt-A-Road  
Indian Trail  
Clean Up

Saturday, June 10  
10:00 am - Noon  
Pet Photography  
Class

Sunday, June 25  
Library Reopening  
Celebration

# The Back Shelf

ISSUE 1

MAY 2017

## The Back Story

The challenge—coming up with a title for the Friends of the Ray Township Library and Historical Society's newsletter. The name of the group is complicated enough, so the title had to be witty, related to both the literary world and history, and most importantly, short.

Did it work? What did you think when you read the title?

Did it inspire you to look on a shelf in your home, library, or museum for a favorite book, photograph, or other unexpected find that holds memories and stories of people, places, and things that made a difference in your life?

What would you find if you dusted something off a back shelf right now?

The Society is hoping this first, and subsequent, newsletters will encourage you to engage in our community, discover the resources available at the Ray Township Public Library, and unlock the secrets of Ray Township's past.

We want your suggestions and input as *The Back Shelf* is a work in progress.



THE LIBRARY'S BACK SHELF

Keep reading to find out what is planned for the next couple months. Here's a peek.

May and June are busy months as we get ready for a bottle drive, the Indian Trail Road clean up, and a pet photography class.

The Library's major renovation project is about to begin which means the wooden shelves and desks are for sale. Don't worry, you still have time to check out books, DVD's, and audiobooks to last you through the closure. Although, our Library's items will be safely stored away, you can still have items from other libraries delivered to the Township Office for pick up during the day. Check out the Library's website, [raylibrary.org](http://raylibrary.org), and Facebook page for details.

## Bottle Drive for Archives

Society members will be on hand **Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm** at the Ray Township Fire Hall & Recycling Center on 29 Mile and Wolcott to accept your returnable plastic bottles and aluminum cans. This Bottle Drive helps the Society raise funds for a custom archival cabinet in the Library as part of Phase II of the Library's Renovation Project. Not Recycling? Go directly to the Fire Hall parking lot. You do not need a recycling pass.

Phase I of the Library's Renovations for Resourceful Spaces Project begins May 11th and ends June 6th. The main section of the Library will be reconfigured to become more welcoming and accessible for the public.

New bookshelves, tables, chairs, and a custom circulation desk will allow the Library to better serve its patrons. In addition, new carpeting and paint will brighten the space.

The Project is possible with the support of the community, Ray Township Lions Club, TCF Foundation, Michigan Council of Arts and Cultural Affairs, and participants of our fundraisers.

The Library's old furniture, including bookshelves, desks, tables, and chairs, is for sale via silent auction ending **May 6th at 1:00 pm**. You can stop in, visit the Library's Facebook page, call 586-749-7130, or send an email to [raylibrarymi@gmail.com](mailto:raylibrarymi@gmail.com).

FRIENDS OF THE

*Ray Township*  
LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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The Society was formally organized in 2005 as a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization and added support of the Library in 2015. Our mission is to engage passionate individuals to enrich cultural experiences, enhance literary and educational opportunities, and enliven history.

BOARD MEMBERS

Keri Murphy ~ [president@rayhistory.org](mailto:president@rayhistory.org)

Terry Goike ~ [vicepresident@rayhistory.org](mailto:vicepresident@rayhistory.org)

Michelle Kouri ~ [secretary@rayhistory.org](mailto:secretary@rayhistory.org)

## Spotlight on Upcoming Events

Join us at our **NEXT MEETING Thursday, May 18th at 6:00pm** in the Ray Township Senior Center. We will be working on plans for our upcoming events, the 2018 calendar, the silent auction during the September 17th Simply the Finest Fest, and fine-tuning our newsletter.

**INDIAN TRAIL ADOPT-A-ROAD CLEANUP** is set for **Thursday, June 1st at 6:30pm**. Meet us in the Library parking lot and pick up a stylish, orange vest and a garbage bag. Wear long pants and gloves. The one mile stretch only takes about an hour to clean.

**A PET PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS** will be held on **Saturday, June 10th from 10:00 am - 12 noon** in the Ray Township Park and Senior Center. Photographer, Melissa Kremer, will teach proper lighting and composition to showcase your pet's personality. The cost is just \$5 per person. Bring your own camera and pet (optional). Your photograph could be featured in our 2018 calendar.



Photo courtesy of Lasting Memories

**LIBRARY RE-OPENING CELEBRATION** is **Sunday, June 25th**. Join us for the ribbon cutting, cake, crafts, and a presentation on Walt Whitman.

Have you experienced anything unusual in Ray Township? **METRO PARANORMAL INVESTIGATIONS** will be coming to our area to present their findings. Consult our website or your medium for more information.

The Greater Washington Area Historical Society's **SUPER SUNDAY CRAFT SHOW** is **June 4th 10:00am - 4:00pm**. Crafters needed. 248-652-2458 or [washhistsoc.org](http://washhistsoc.org).

This first issue is dedicated in memory of Betty Brodacki, Dolores Fowler, and Crystal Teller. Betty wrote many articles about Davis in the Romeo Observer. Dolores and Crystal were two of the original founders of the Ray Township Historical Commission in the 1970's. These are just two examples of their numerous contributions.