

Ray Township Public Library receives \$3,000 grant

The Ray Township Public Library has been awarded \$3,000 to help boost the community's overall digital and online skills.

The library located at 64255 Wolcott Road is one of 200 libraries to participate in Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries, an American Library Association (ALA) initiative that helps library workers better serve their small and rural communities.

"We are grateful for this opportunity. Our goal is to bring digital literacy and confidence to our community," said Library Director Christy DeMeulenaere.

As part of the grant, staff will take an online course in how to lead conversations which DeMeulenaere said is a skill vital to library work today.

She said staff will then host and/or Zoom a conversation with residents about technology and use the grant funds to provide hot spots and iPads for circulation along with classes.

If you are interested in getting involved or taking part in the conversation, contact Mary Barnes at mary@raylibrary.org, or visit www.raylibrary.org for more information.

More than 300 libraries applied for the grant, according to ALA.

Since 2014, ALA's Libraries Transforming Communities initiative has re-imagined the role libraries play in supporting communities.

Libraries of all types have utilized free dialogue and deliberation training and resources to lead community and campus forums; take part in anti-violence activities; provide a space for residents to come together and discuss challenging topics; and have productive conversations with civic leaders, library trustees and staff.

Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries is an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).



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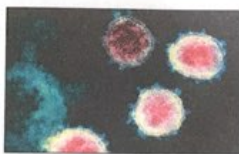
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