



Ray Township Public Library

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State of the Library 2023-2024

The Library continues to grow every year!

One of the high lighted programs of the year was the Mushroom Walk with Lorenzo which was Shroom Tastic! The Reptaruim entertained us with education and interactive animal experiences for all ages. We also laughed loudly and full heartedly with the Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Company.

Mary Barns, Library Assistant received multiple grants to increase the programs, education and items available to check out for the patrons of the Library. \$3,000.00 was awarded from the Dollar General Literacy Grant for the Summer Reading Program, \$1,000.00 from the ACP Grant to spread the word about Internet Connectivity within the community, \$6,000.00 from ATT & ALA for Senior Technology classes and \$1,000.00 for a very unique grant from the Space Science Institute which provided us a life size Blue Whale tail. This allowed us to spark scientific exploration and local exploration of the Natural World.

The Library was able to partner with Gleaners to hold the first food drive since covid. Together with the Suburban Library Cooperative we raised 4,814 pounds of food as well as over \$1,257 in donation funds. Thanks to you our pantry partners are able to provide over 7,382 meals to our hungry neighbors throughout Southeast Michigan.

For all the crafters out there the Library created a small Makerspace Area. We now have a Cricut that can be used in house. Items can be laminated, or if you have a project for school and need something binded, we now offer a binding machine. Even if you just need a small space to come up with those creative ideas check out our space today.

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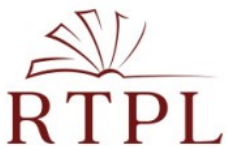
Just a few more things....

The Library has formed a partnership with Wolcott Farm which takes Toddler Time to a whole new level, the kiddos are able to listen to a story, make a craft and have a hands on experience with animal or item they are learning about. This has increased number for both the Library and the Farm. The Library was able to provide the staff with an Employee Assistance Program offered through the Cooperative. All staff members are now CPR & AED Certified and the Library also purchased an AED Machine to have onsite.

Lastly, one of our biggest achievements for those who enjoy streaming is Hoopla. Patrons can stream on demand eBooks, audiobooks, movies, TV shows and music monthly with their Library Card.

As always we would like to thank Ray Township and the Friends of the Ray Township Library and Historical Society for their continued support.

Sincerely,



Christy DeMeulenaere

Library Director
Ray Township Public Library
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