

**“A new heart for a New Year, always!”**

— Charles Dickens (1812-1870),  
*The Chimes* (1844)



The official newsletter of Rodman Public Library

## RPL has resources to help you keep your resolutions

Did you make any New Year’s resolutions for 2022?

Perhaps you vowed to eat better and lose weight. By chance, you may have promised that you would learn a new skill or language. Or maybe you are determined to fill in the blanks on your family tree and learn the history of your ancestors.

Whatever you hope to achieve in 2022, Rodman Public Library has the resources to help you reach those goals in the form of databases and magazines.

The best part is you don’t even have to brave the cold January weather to get started on the right foot. You can do it all from the comfort of your home, using our website – [rodmanlibrary.com](http://rodmanlibrary.com) – and an active library card.

Those of you looking to be healthier may want to check out the Ohio Digital Library from the Digital Downloads portion of our website and the many health, exercise and food magazines available as part of a collection of more than 3,000 titles in a plethora of categories. These include Women’s Health and Men’s Health, Prevention and Clean Eating, and Runner’s World and Yoga Journal – just to name a few.

Many of the magazines are archived as far back as three years – good for those who swore they would catch up on their reading in the new year.

See **RESOLUTIONS** on Page 5

## A Most Beautiful Thing is OBOC selection for 2022



**ARSHAY COOPER**

Growing up on Chicago’s Westside in the 1990s, Arshay Cooper needed a positive influence in his life.

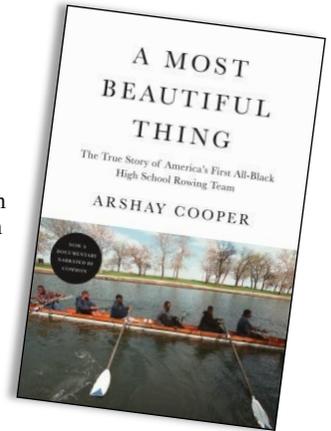
He found it in a most unusual way for an inner-city youth – in the sport known as crew as part of a squad that made history as America’s first all-Black high school rowing team.

Cooper recounts the story in *A Most Beautiful Thing*, the 2022 One Book One Community selection. Originally published with the title *Suga Water*, the



book has been turned into an award-winning documentary from filmmaker Mary Mazzio that is narrated by Common and was produced by Grant Hill, Dwyane Wade, and 9th Wonder.

A Golden Oar recipient for his contributions to the sport of rowing, Cooper is also a Benjamin Franklin award-winning author, a motivational speaker, and an activist, particularly around issues of accessibility for low-income families.



See **OBOC** on Page 5

## Bookmobile busy during school year

*Makes 14 stops in two-week period, reaches more than 2,500 students*

On a chilly day late in November, students at Regina Coeli School boarded the Rodman Public Library Bookmobile, books in hand.

Most eyes were bright, hinting there were smiles behind the masks. The students were eager to climb the steps onto the 34-foot library on wheels to drop off their returns at the front, make their new selections, and then check them out at the back before returning to their classrooms.

“I have been looking forward to this all day,” said one third-grade boy.

Some of the students knew exactly what they wanted. Others took time to browse the shelves before picking out the books they would read for the next two weeks.

Bookmobile Manager Jamie Warnock greeted the students as they climbed in, taking their books and checking them back into circulation. She leafed through each one and wiped each cover to sanitize it before returning the books to the shelves.

Librarian James Sedoris was manning the back of the Bookmobile, taking each student’s card and scanning it along with the barcode on the cover of each book so that

it was properly checked out. He knew many students by name and wished each and every one a good day as they walked out the back door.

Of course, both Warnock and Sedoris aided students in locating the materials they wanted -- Christmas and winter books being popular as Thanksgiving had just passed and they were among the new items on the truck during this biweekly visit to Regina Coeli School.

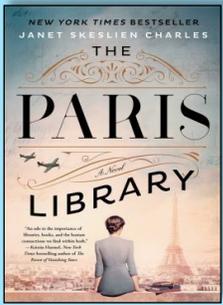


The Rodman Public Library Bookmobile staff includes, from left, James Sedoris, Jeff Kennedy, Jamie Warnock, Jodie Gerber and Dan Cherry .

See **BOOKMOBILE** on Page 6

## BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS

For a look at future Book Club selections, visit [rodmanlibrary.com/Rodman-Book-Clubs](http://rodmanlibrary.com/Rodman-Book-Clubs)



**BOOKS & COFFEE**  
Meets every second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Branch Library.

**Next meeting: Jan. 10**  
*The Paris Library*

**Janet Skeslien Charles**

Call 330-821-1313 for information.

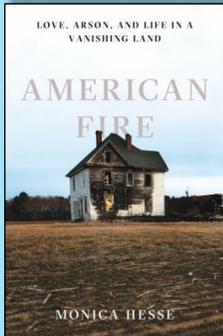
### TRUE CRIME JUNKIES

Meets every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Library.

**Next meeting: Jan. 18**  
*American Fire: Love, Arson, and Life in a Vanishing Land*

**Monica Hesse**

Call 330-821-2665, ext. 215 for information.



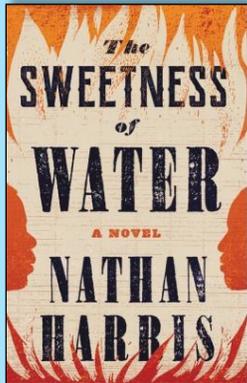
### RPL EVENING BOOK CLUB

Meets every fourth Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the Main Library.

**Next meeting: Jan. 24**  
*The Sweetness of Water*

**Nathan Harris**

Call 330-821-2665, ext. 107 for information.



## Alliance Vinyl Club to host special guest

The Alliance Vinyl Club will welcome special guest Bob Ethington during its January meeting at Rodman Public Library.

Ethington had been scheduled to join the group in November, but his visit was postponed to Jan. 26 due to a scheduling conflict.

The Alliance Vinyl Club, which provides the opportunity to listen to music, talk and hang out, usually meets at 6:30 p.m. every third Wednesday of the month in the RPL Main Auditorium. January's meeting is being held on the fourth Wednesday in order to accommodate Ethington's schedule.

Ethington, a musician who recently retired after 35 years as a library manager for the

Akron-Summit County Public Library, will play some of his favorite records and give an informal talk about his experiences, which include stints in several bands. In the 1980s, Ethington was the drummer for Unit 5, a new wave band, and later played with Ralph Carney, Tin Huey, Kinski Spiral, and Half Cleveland. He currently plays in Golems of the Red Planet, Pin 2 Hot, and Glenn Lazear.

Visitors are also welcome to bring a few of their own favorite records. Due to time limitations, only a few selections per person will be played. A turntable will be provided, but we ask that you handle your personal records and assume any liability for normal wear and scratches.

No registration is required.

For more information, call the Main Library at 330-821-2665, ext. 216.



**ETHINGTON**

### ONGOING PROGRAMS

#### Strategy Gaming

During the family strategy game nights, held monthly, card games such as Yu-Gi-Oh and Magic: The Gathering are played as well as a variety of board games. A different board game is featured each month. No registration is needed. Call 330-821-2665, ext. 217, for information.

**Monday, Jan. 4 at 5:30 p.m.**

#### Knit Wits Needlework Circle

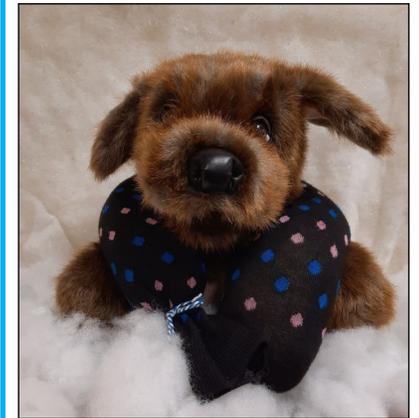
The KnitWits, a circle for needleworkers of all types and skill levels, meets at 10:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month at the Main Library. The group is always seeking new members and donations of yarn.

**Mondays, Jan. 10 and Jan. 24 at 10:00 a.m.**

#### TECH Time Thursday

A librarian is on hand each Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to noon to answer basic questions about your electronic devices, such as phones, laptops and tablets. No registration is needed. For more information, call 330-821-2665, ext. 216.

**Every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to noon**



## Maker Monday set for Jan. 24

Maker Monday crafters will create a no-sew microwavable heating pad when they meet Monday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. in Rodman Public Library's Main Auditorium. The pad is filled with rice and essential oils and is reusable.

All materials are provided free of charge, thanks to Friends of Rodman Library, but space is limited and registration is required for each session.

Registrations can be made online at [rodmanlibrary.evanced.info/signup](http://rodmanlibrary.evanced.info/signup) or by calling 330-821-2665, ext. 107.



#### MAIN LIBRARY

215 E. Broadway St.  
Alliance, Ohio 44601  
330.821.2665

#### BRANCH LIBRARY

1808 W. State St.  
Alliance, OH 44601  
330.821.1313

#### HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday through Wednesday: 10 a.m. — 8 p.m.

Thursday & Friday: 10 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Sunday:

Main Library — Closed

Branch Library — 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

(October through April only)

[rodmanlibrary.com](http://rodmanlibrary.com)

#### Want to help support Rodman Public Library?

Join the Friends of Rodman Public Library by calling 330-821-2665 or by visiting any of the service desks.

\$5 for an individual membership / \$25 for a patron membership

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## OBOC

### From Page 1

*A Most Beautiful Thing* is the inspiring true story about the most unlikely band of brothers that form a family and forever change a sport and their lives for the better.

Cooper recounts his life as a teenager in Chicago where the street corners were full of gangs and the hallways of his apartment complex were haunted by drug addicts he called “zombies” with strung out arms, clutching at him as he passed by. His mother was a recovering addict, and his three siblings all slept in a one-room apartment, a small infantry against the war zone on the street below.

Cooper kept to himself, preferring to write poetry about the girl he had a crush on, and spent his school days in the home economics kitchen, dreaming of becoming a chef.

And then one day as he’s walking out of school, he noticed a boat in the school lunchroom, and a poster that read “Join the Crew Team.” Having no knowledge of the sport of crew, Cooper decided to take a chance. This decision to join was one that changed his life. As he and his teammates began to come together to learn how to row — many never having been in water before — the sport took them from the mean streets of Chicago to the hallowed halls of the Ivy League. But Cooper and his teammates face adversity at every turn, from racism, gang violence, and a sport that has never seen anyone like them before.

Cooper will visit Alliance on the evening of Thursday, March 31. Other One Book One Community programs leading up to the author’s visit will be announced at a later date.

Each year, the One Book One Community committee selects a book for an all-community read.

This year’s committee includes Marcia Addison, Nicole Brown, Steve Daskalov, JoAnn Jones, Cheryl Paine, Libby Patterson, Carla Sarratt, Louise Schwartz, Chelsea Shar, Michael Zerbe, and Eric Taggart, who serves as chairman.

## RESOLUTIONS

### From Page 1

The magazine section is also perfect for anyone with hobbies, too, as some of the popular titles available include Woodworking, CrossStitcher, bon appétit, PC Magazine, and Guitar World.

Of course, there are also magazines like Newsweek, The New Yorker, Rolling Stone and Reader’s Digest as part of the offerings. There are lifestyle magazines such as Us and Cosmopolitan. There are travel magazines, automobile magazines, fashion magazines and all sorts of guides to help you learn photography, coding, and other skills.

Those serious about learning new skills should take a look at some of our other choices in the Digital Downloads section of our website. They include free courses from platforms such as LinkedIn Learning, Universal Class, creativebug, and Transparent Language.

Those wanting to trace their roots will find our online databases to be a great help, especially the newest addition to our lineup – HeritageHub.

HeritageHub allows you to explore your family history with the premier collection of U.S. obituaries and death notices for in-depth genealogical research from 1704 through today. HeritageHub helps you easily identify relatives, uncover new information and potentially unknown family members. It includes deep coverage from all 50 states, hard-to-find content from the mid 1900s, and original obituary images.

HeritageHub is one of more than 75 databases in 21 categories offered on the Rodman Library website that will help cardholders find information on virtually everything imaginable.

Of course, if reading more is your resolution in 2022, Rodman Library is the place to go.

As much as we love to see you visit our Main and Branch loca-



What caught my attention (about rowing), was that these people would show up everyday, not for million dollar contracts, not for cheerleaders, not for bus loads of fans, but for themselves.

They would rip apart their hands and break their back for the person in front of them, the person behind them, and for themselves. And those were the kind of people I needed in my life.

ARSHAY COOPER

The selection for 2020 was *Orphan Train*, a novel by Christina Baker Kline. Other past One Book One Community selections include *The Color of Water* by James McBride, *Riding the Bus with My Sister* by Rachel Simon, *Lisa’s Story* by Tom Batiuk, *Blood Done Sign My Name* by Timothy Tyson and *What Stands in a Storm* by Kim Cross.

One Book One Community, established in Alliance in 2004, is a collaborative undertaking of Rodman Public Library, the Friends of Rodman Public Library, the University of Mount Union, the Greater Alliance Foundation and The Alliance Review.

Books are available for purchase at Rodman Public Library and Rodman Branch Library. The cost is \$14.50 each. They are also available for loan to cardholders and via the Ohio Digital Library on the Libby and Overdrive apps for those who prefer to read a digital copy.

## ACCESSING MAGAZINES AND DATABASES

Gaining access to the online materials is easy through the Rodman Public Library website ([www.rodmanlibrary.com](http://www.rodmanlibrary.com).)

To search our databases, click on the Find Information tab in the blue navigation bar underneath the library logo, then select Research Databases from the drop down menu. From there, you can search by category or alphabetically.

For the collection of periodicals and comics, click on the Digital Downloads tab in the blue navigation bar underneath the library logo and then Ohio Digital Library from the menu. On the Ohio Digital Library site, click on the Collections tab underneath the Ohio Digital Library logo. The magazines and comics are both listed under the first column labeled Special in the window that appears. The magazines are also listed in their own column by subject on the far right.

Cardholders may need to enter the number on the back of their Rodman Library card to gain access to some of our online offerings. The card number should be entered in its entirety without any spaces. A PIN (personal identification number) will also be required. A patron’s PIN is usually the last four digits of the phone number on file with Rodman Public Library.

Cardholders who use the Libby and Overdrive apps can also access the magazines and comics collection through those apps.

Those needing help either logging in or needing a lookup of their PIN should call 330-821-2665, ext. 217 for assistance.

tions, you can also get audiobooks and ebooks from our website through links to hoopla, TumbleBooks, Axis 360 and the Ohio Digital Library, which also offers Rodman Library patrons access to more than 2,800 comics and graphic novels from Disney, Marvel, IDW, Image, and Dark Horse. The titles range from My Little Pony and Dog Man for children, to Spider-Man and Star Wars for true comic fans, and adaptations of great works of literature by William Shakespeare and Jane Austen for a different way to enjoy the classics.

Whatever it is you aspire to do in 2022, we hope that you take the time to **EXPLORE** our website, **DISCOVER** how much we have to offer, and let us help you **EMPOWER** yourself.

Happy New Year.

# BOOKMOBILE

From Page 1

“Each season or holiday, we bring items that are specific for that time,” explained Warnock. “We try and keep what’s popular with the kids on board and we will also bring specific items if they are requested by a student.”

There are always at least two librarians aboard the Bookmobile, which is also staffed by Jodie Gerber, Dan Cherry, and Jeff Kennedy.

The stop at Regina Coeli is one of 15 made every two weeks by the Bookmobile from September through May. The one community stop is at Copeland Oaks in Sebring. The other 14 stops are at schools, including each of the Alliance City Schools with the exception of the high school, each school in the Marlinton Local School District, one made at the West Branch Early Learning Center and visits to Union Avenue Preschool, First Baptist Preschool and Regina Coeli.

In all, the Rodman Library Bookmobile impacts 145 classes in the greater Alliance area, serving an approximate 2,775 students of all age levels.

Warnock explained that the Bookmobile is more than just a traveling collection of random books. It also provides a valuable service for teachers in providing them with books they need for specific lessons and projects in their classroom, delivering book collections on request.

“For instance, teachers may need a set of biographies, so they let us know and we can gather them and bring them when we visit,” said Warnock.

Lisa Korosy, a fifth-grade teacher who has been at Regina Coeli for



**LEFT:** Bookmobile Manager Jamie Warnock helps Regina Coeli third-grade students make their selections during a stop in late November. **BELOW:** Some Regina Coeli third-grade students browse the shelves of the Bookmobile while others line up to have their selections checked out by librarian James Sedoris.

43 years, has taken advantage of the Rodman Library book collections.

“The Bookmobile is useful to me as a teacher because I can request books to use in my classroom and they will gather and bring them to school for me,” said Korosy. “It is also useful because it gives the students a variety of books they can use for research, or to just read for enjoyment. At times, I have used the Bookmobile to get collections for Science projects and reports.”

Korosy added that the Bookmobile helps inspire children to read.

“I enjoy having the Bookmobile come to our school because the children enjoy it, and they look forward to getting new books and reading them,” said Korosy. “The Bookmobile helps kids stay interested in reading.”

Those sentiments are echoed by Regina Coeli third-grade teacher Ryley Snyder, a recent Mount Union graduate in her first year of teaching.

“The Bookmobile service has been really helpful in my classroom with getting my students motivated and excited about reading,” said Snyder.

“When the students have the chance to visit the Bookmobile, they come back very enthusiastic about their book and enjoy getting to share their new book with myself and their classmates. At times it can be a challenge to get the students to want to read and find it exciting, but I can definitely say the Bookmobile has increased my students' interest in reading this year.”

Snyder added that the books her students choose from the Bookmobile are put to good use as part of their lessons.

“When working through the reading standards for third grade and with the students on their reading skills, I often have them refer back to their Bookmobile books to think about the specific skill. The students enjoy then getting to share to their classmates about how their book relates to what we are focusing on in the lesson. By doing this, I have had many times when students will share with me during silent reading time a way that their story fits into a lesson we have done so far without any prompting. This has been awesome to experience as a teacher and has really increased my students' interest in learning and reading.”

For Warnock and her staff, that’s what it’s all about.

“It’s important for us to be out here for both the kids and the teachers,” said Warnock. “All they have to do is call us and we are happy to deliver to them the materials that they want and the materials that they need.”

For more information about the Bookmobile, call 330-821-2665, ext. 108.



## WHAT OTHERS SAY

**Holly Power,**  
Principal of Alliance Early Learning School, writes:

“The staff and students love the Bookmobile at Alliance Early Learning School! It gives the students an opportunity to have a real-life library experience right in our own parking lot! Our students love being able to pick out books chosen just for their interests and levels. For many, this is their first experience using an actual library card, and they take the responsibility very seriously! At AELS, we promote reading with your child every single day. The Bookmobile is an important part of promoting literacy in our building.”

**Mallory Chevraux,**  
Intervention Specialist at Marlinton Middle School, writes

“Our students look forward to going to the Bookmobile every other Monday. They get excited to check out books about cars, sports teams or even just picture books to look at when they have completed their work. The Bookmobile is also very helpful for the teachers. The librarians are helpful in tracking down specific books requested or providing classroom sets of books to be used for reading instruction. At Marlinton Middle School, we love the Bookmobile.”

**Robert Graham,**  
Principal of West Branch Early Learning Center, writes:

“The Rodman Bookmobile has brought an outside element that some of our students do not get to experience. The Bookmobile has been a wonderful community partner in allowing the students of the Early Learning Center to use their library cards to check books out as if they were in a regular library. The students and staff always look forward to the twice-a-month visits from the Bookmobile and their staff. I cannot wait to continue this partnership in the future.”