MY BEST FRIEND FIONA
WCPO community reporter Lucy May and editorial cartoonist Kevin Necessary talk about their book.
THE INTERVIEW ON PAGE 6.

TALES TO TAILS
How a therapy dog named Ruby is making it easier for kids to learn to read.
THE HEARTWARMING STORY ON PAGE 9.

BOY ARGUES FOR MORE PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING
A 12-year-old from Mariemont says the future of his generation depends on the Library.
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Find us on all your favorite social media platforms @cincylibrary
YOU ARE
the center of everything we do.

Our operating budget for 2017 is the same as our operating budget in 2000. But because of inflation, the money we receive now doesn’t go as far as it did in the year 2000.

The past few months have demonstrated how well-loved our public Library is and how heavily it is used. Unfortunately, despite the community pride and love felt for libraries and the continuing demand for our services, state support for public libraries through the Public Library Fund is declining. From 2008 through 2016, state funding for our Library has dropped 19.5 percent from $47.5 million to $38.2 million.

To offset this loss of funding for our Library, voters approved a levy in 2009 that replaced the state funding but provided no additional funding. Our operating budget for 2017 is the same as our operating budget in 2000. But because of inflation, the money we receive now doesn’t go as far as it did in the year 2000. In order to keep all locations open, a priority for our community, we had to make difficult spending decisions. We deferred maintenance for our Libraries. Some Library locations are not fully accessible and others are too small and outdated. Fixing these issues is expensive. The work is conservatively estimated to cost $54 million.

The work that needs to be done isn’t glamorous. But it is necessary. We need to add elevators and accessible restrooms to our branch libraries in Madisonville, Price Hill, and Walnut Hills, and make branch libraries in Cheviot, Norwood, and Wyoming fully accessible to people with disabilities. We need windows at eleven branch libraries from Blue Ash to Mt. Washington. We need lighting and electrical upgrades at nearly every location, as well as updates to carpeting, flooring, and furniture.

Many people don’t know that of the 33 branch libraries we own, 19 have never been renovated. Ten of our branches are more than 85 years old. Only three library locations are new.

A community that relies on its libraries as heavily as Cincinnati needs and deserves branch libraries that are in good condition and up-to-date, with an extensive collection, a top-quality staff, and hours that are convenient.
LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY NAMED AS PRESTIGIOUS FIVE-STAR LIBRARY BY LIBRARY JOURNAL FOR FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Fans of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County know they’ll receive top-rated service and care at their branch. And the library field’s leading professional publication, the Library Journal, confirms your Library is among the best in the nation. The publication recognized the Library—for the fifth year in a row—by designating it as a Five-Star Library.

The Library Journal’s Index of Public Library Service is a national ranking system comparing U.S. public libraries on the quantities of services they deliver based on per capita statistics for library visits, circulation, program attendance, and public Internet use. This year’s ratings were based on 2015 data. We want to say thank you to all our cardholders for your continued support of the Library—you made this honor possible!

LIBRARIANS RECOMMEND THE BEST APPS FOR HOMEWORK HELP

Every day, parents and kids in Hamilton County struggle with challenging homework assignments and test preparation. Our Librarians tested free apps to help your student study and get better grades. They narrowed their choices down to six apps: One Note, myHomework Student Planner, Quizlet, Socratic, Homework HelpNow from Brainfuse, and edX. All the apps work on Apple and Android devices and can help your student track notes, create flashcards, find answers to tough homework questions, take free classes from instructors at some of the best institutions in the country, and talk to a tutor. This helpful new list is now available at CincinnatiLibrary.org/Education.

ONLINE PROGRAM AT THE LIBRARY HELPS ADULTS EARN THEIR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS

Ten adult students are embracing new futures after earning a high school diploma and career certification through the Career Online High School program. Three of those students attended a special graduation ceremony recently at the Main Library. Graduates received a high school diploma and career certification in fields like childcare, security, office management, food service, and retail after completing courses online with the help of an academic coach.

One of those graduates was 37-year-old Dara Roundtree, who learned about the program through Smart Horizons Career Online Education. “I just tried to earn my GED through another program, and it ended up being fraudulent,” said Dara. “But then Smart Horizons told me about a program at the Library that offered scholarships. Once I discovered the program was free, there was no stopping me. It’s the best decision I’ve ever made to further my educational goals.”

Dara received her diploma and career certificate in childhood education with a 3.0 grade point average and now serves as an inspiration for her three children, one of whom is on the verge of earning her own high school diploma. “My kids did not help me one bit,” said Dara. “I did everything myself and wanted to show them that Mom can go back and do it. You can’t go anywhere without your high school diploma or GED. Now that I have my diploma, the sky is the limit. I can work anywhere, I’m excited, and I’ve saved thousands of dollars in the process.”

Hamilton County residents can apply for Career Online High School by visiting CincinnatiLibrary.org/COHS.

Dara Roundtree at the COHS graduation ceremony.
Grace Cail is a determined 18-year-old who isn’t used to barriers—despite the fact that she lives with Myotonic Dystrophy. The disease affects her ability to walk, so Grace uses a wheelchair to get around.

With the help of her advocate Bridget, Grace recently began work on a project about the history of churches in Madisonville. She and Bridget decided to visit the Madisonville Branch Library to do some research. But they couldn’t even get in the door. “I’m so used to seeing a wheelchair entrance,” said Grace. “We thought—maybe it’s around back. And we went around back and there’s nothing.”

That’s because the Madisonville Branch Library, located on Whetsel Avenue, is not accessible. The historic building opened in 1925 and does not have any entrance for those with physical limitations. That means people who can’t walk up the steps either have to call a Librarian to bring their materials outside, or have to visit a different branch. “It is truly difficult for my friends and me because then we can’t go anywhere inside,” said a frustrated Grace during a recent conversation with Library staff. “If all public buildings had accessibility, we’d be just like everybody else.”

The work to make all branches in the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County system accessible to those with disabilities is the top priority of the Library’s Facility Plan. The Library is working to find funding for the project, which would set aside money for all branches in need of repair and would bring five branches—Cheviot, Madisonville, Price Hill, Walnut Hills, and Wyoming—up to accessibility standards. It would also make the auditorium at the Norwood Branch Library accessible.

Sara Sheets, executive director of the Madisonville Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation, said improvements are important for thousands of people in Hamilton County. “We have people all the time who want to come for meetings or to check out books from the Madisonville Branch Library and they just can’t get into the Library,” said Sheets. “We have an older population in Madisonville—27 percent of our residents are over age 55. We have several hundred units of senior housing about two blocks away and on any given day you’ll see people in wheelchairs scooting around the neighborhood but they can’t get into the Library.”

The Facilities Plan would cost an estimated $54 million to complete. That might sound like a lot of money, but those funds will be used to upgrade all branches in all communities. For Grace, it’s really about getting the same access to Library items and services that her friends enjoy. “What if you knew someone with a disability?” Grace asked. “Wouldn’t you want them to be able to have a normal life?”

Learn more about the Library’s Facilities Plan by visiting CincinnatiLibrary.org/Facilities.
WCPO community reporter Lucy May and editorial cartoonist Kevin Necessary teamed up to write *My Best Friend Fiona* to celebrate everyone’s favorite hippo at the behest of their general manager, Jeff Brogan. The book was sponsored by Skyline Chili and WCPO is donating 20 percent of proceeds to the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden.

**WHAT INSPIRED YOUR FIONA STORY?**
Lucy May: We talked about different approaches to the story but quickly determined that it needed to cover Fiona’s story of survival. The narrator, Trixie the Tilapia, is actually named for my younger daughter. Her middle name is Beatrice, and my husband has called her Trixie since she was a little girl.

**WHY DID YOU DO ILLUSTRATIONS INSTEAD OF PHOTOS?**
LM: I feel sure that Jeff suggested the illustrations because Kevin is such a wonderful artist. I think it was a great call because it really sets the book apart from the other Fiona stories that are available. Kevin’s illustrations are absolutely spectacular.

**HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT ILLUSTRATING THE BOOK?**
Kevin Necessary: When our general manager sent out an email in late July saying he wanted the book to be out by the holidays, I thought he was nuts. I was also scared because I was just a month out from being diagnosed with tennis elbow and compressed nerves in my neck and shoulder. I was in physical therapy, being told to rest, and all of a sudden I was being asked to do one of the largest projects I’ve ever been assigned. But the more I thought about it, the more excited I got. I’ve always wanted to illustrate children’s books.

**HOW DID YOU CREATE YOUR ILLUSTRATIONS?**
KN: I spent a long time scouring the internet for reference photos of Fiona, Bibi, and Henry. I also went to the Zoo to take photos of Fiona and Henry. Hippo Cove, tilapia, and other animals. There’s also a page in the story saying everyone loves Fiona. I drew a lot of characters on that page. Half of them are just characters I came up with, but the rest are real people. I drew Lucy, her husband, our editor, Tasha Stewart, my friend Sue who visits Fiona almost every day, and others into the page. It took me around four days to draw and paint that page, but it was worth it.

Lucy May is a Northern Kentucky native who graduated from Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism. She started working at WCPO in January 2013. Kevin Necessary is a Cincinnati native who graduated from Kent State University’s School of Journalism and Mass Communication. He started drawing cartoons for WCPO as a freelancer in 2014, and became a full-time staff member in 2016. For more about the book, visit [WCPO.com/mybestfriendfiona](http://WCPO.com/mybestfriendfiona).
Author Gene Luen Yang to visit Library for Children’s Book Week

**GENE LUEN YANG** is an Asian-American cartoonist. He is a frequent lecturer on the subjects of graphic novels and comics, at comic book conventions and universities, schools, and libraries.

The Library will celebrate **Children’s Book Week**, (April 30–May 6), with a special visit from Gene Luen Yang, author of the Secret Coders graphic novel series for children. The series introduces kids to coding through logic puzzles and basic programming instruction. Yang is also the author and illustrator of *American Born Chinese*. The book was a National Book Award finalist, as well as the winner of the Printz Award and an Eisner Award. While serving as National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature from 2016–2017, Yang created the Reading Without Walls Challenge, which promotes diversity and opens readers’ eyes to new ideas and experiences.

**Children’s Book Week** is the annual celebration of books for young people and the joy of reading. Throughout the week the Library will hold Secret Coders challenges and events at the Library, culminating in Yang’s visit at the Main Library on Sunday, May 6 at 2 p.m. Mr. Yang will discuss the *Secret Coders* series and the Reading Without Walls Challenge. Books will be available for sale and signing, courtesy of Joseph-Beth Booksellers. Visit the event calendar at [CincinnatiLibrary.org](http://CincinnatiLibrary.org) for more information.

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Emma Carlson Berne is the author of dozens of fiction and nonfiction books for kids and teens. Visit [CincinnatiLibrary.org/WriterinResidence](http://CincinnatiLibrary.org/WriterinResidence) to see a schedule of Berne’s upcoming workshops, open office hours, and *Inside the Writer’s Head* podcasts.

**WHAT’S THE MAIN THING YOU WISH TO ACCOMPLISH DURING YOUR YEAR AS WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE?** I am determined to talk to as many people as possible about writing. Writing as a job is pretty isolating—let me blow your mind with that revelation—and I’m relishing the chance to get out of my hole and talk to actual people in the actual world.

**DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE BOOK OR AUTHOR?** Jane Smiley is my No. 1 girl. Margaret Atwood, but only the old books, not the new ones (sorry, Margaret). Curtis Sittenfeld, Jhumpa Lahiri, Anna Quindlen, *Jane Eyre*, *Little Women*, Lois Lowry, Beverly Cleary, all of Laura Ingalls Wilder, some of which I have read so many times, I can actually recite passages. I will read anything Jon Krakauer writes.

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**EMMA CARLSON BERNE**

2018 Writer-In-Residence
Boy argues for more public library funding

Boy argues for more public library funding

A 12-year-old from Mariemont says the future of his generation depends on the Library.

Jerry O’Hara is not your typical 12-year-old. The bespectacled Mariemont preteen is a self-described nerd who reads two books each week, just for the fun of it. “I am definitely an intellectual,” said Jerry on a recent afternoon visit to the Mariemont Branch Library. “I just love learning and knowledge in general.”

Jerry made an impression on the Librarians at the branch when he came in to research a speech for Jillian Strall’s Modern Communications class at Mariemont Junior High School. Jerry’s chosen topic was public library funding. “It was refreshing to see a young adult so interested in the topic,” said Strall. “As you can imagine, not many seventh-graders have an opinion one way or another about libraries, nor an awareness of their funding. Jerry dove right in from day one.”

Jerry began his work online. “I accessed the Library’s website,” he recalls. “I read internal publications and basically just did a lot of poking around in documents, tried to find numbers, graphs, charts, and other things to put in a PowerPoint.”

Next, Jerry visited the branch. “I spoke to a Librarian and he described to me a lot of the sources of the funding the Library gets, and sent me a lot of helpful information,” said Jerry. “I was able to quote directly from a good primary source.”

And Jerry says what he learned about the way libraries are funded was concerning. “It mainly comes from the state of Ohio Public Library Fund,” he explains. “The money in that fund is sadly decreasing, which is leading to a lot of funding cuts in libraries and shifts toward more local sources of funds.”

Jerry used his speech to argue for more library funding. He said there is a lot at stake. “And this is not a happy thought for me at all, but it would really affect the future of our generation,” said Jerry. “Being a generation growing up without a library means we won’t know how to really enjoy researching and enjoy walking through the shelves of a library looking for a good book and then finding it.”

Jerry also worries about the future of programs that help his fellow students, like Homework Help. The Library provides free homework help to students in kindergarten through eighth grade at many of the branch libraries in the afternoon during the school year. Homework Help is available seven days a week at the Main Library. Jerry knows the importance of this firsthand since he tutors younger students. “If it helps even one child, then this Homework Help program is working,” contends Jerry.
“His speech was able to bring awareness to an overshadowed topic, especially among today’s youth,” said Strall. “He nailed one of the most important aspects of the entire assignment: find something you are passionate about and dig into it further. I’ve never had a seventh grader who felt stronger about the importance of the public library and all the amazing resources it has to offer its communities.”

Jerry says there’s a misconception that kids his age don’t use the library anymore. “I would definitely say that is not true,” he says. “We just use it in a different way than the previous generations have and the generations that come after us will continue to use it in a different way. We tend to use the library as a study and workspace and use the computers.”

When he’s not reading or doing homework, Jerry enjoys working on the school yearbook and is part of a LEGO robotics club. He isn’t sure exactly what career path he’ll chose as an adult. Jerry can see himself as a writer, journalist, lawyer, or a librarian! And he has an important message for anyone who thinks the Library is obsolete. “It’s continuing to evolve in its own way and the way it serves the community and the children both today and tomorrow,” said Jerry. “It’s a gathering place and it’s a repository that holds much of man’s knowledge. And this important institution is a haven for the perpetually curious and those who love learning.”

We couldn’t have said it any better.
CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK’S DAY WITH SONG AND DANCE AT THE MAIN LIBRARY

Join us for the 36th Annual St. Patrick’s Day Celebration of Song and Dance FRIDAY, MARCH 16 AT 11:45 A.M. at the Main Library. This family-friendly event, sponsored by the Friends of the Public Library, features music by Dark Moll and a special performance by the McGing Irish Dancers. Reserved seating is available for Friends of the Public Library members. Please call 513-369-6035 to reserve your seat.

CLIFTON BRANCH OFFERS HISTORIC HOME WALKING TOURS

When Lisa Hamrick arrived as the new manager at the Clifton Branch Library, she noticed that the former Boss Cox mansion wasn’t the only historically significant building in the neighborhood. That’s when she was inspired to start the Clifton Walking Tour. The first walk took place Nov. 18.

“I love the variety of houses found throughout the Clifton community,” said Hamrick. “Knowing about the country’s fascination with DIY and HGTV shows, I thought others might also be interested in wandering through Clifton to look at the homes near the branch. It was amazing to me that within a two-block radius there are three buildings on the National Register of Historic places and three homes built by the famous Cincinnati architect Samuel Hannaford—including the Clifton Branch Library.”

Hamrick plans on creating different routes for future walks. Several people in the first tour group volunteered their own stories about the neighborhood. “Our next-door neighbor on Jefferson Avenue—Dan Nelson—arrived in a top hat to share details of his building,” said Hamrick.

“I think it’s exciting to have individuals interested in exploring the architecture and Clifton,” said Nelson. “The tour covered a lot of ground regarding the diverse city of architectural styles in the area surrounding the Library. When you look deeper at each of the architectural elements you can see there’s been a great deal of thought and artistic sensibility creating a broad range of design and artistic balance throughout the community.”

Hamrick plans on making the Walking Tour a quarterly event. Future walks are scheduled for MARCH 24, JUNE 23, and SEPT. 22. For more information, call the branch at 513-369-4447 or visit the event calendar at CincinnatiLibrary.org.

NEW SERIES OFFERS GUIDANCE TO COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES

The Library is partnering with the Institute for Learning Differences at Thomas More College on a series of workshops to help students with learning differences make a successful transition to college. These workshops will be held in the Huenefeld Tower Room at the Main Library.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 9:15 A.M.—EXECUTIVE FUNCTION CHALLENGES AND THE COLLEGE STUDENT

Executive function is a set of mental skills that allows you to manage time, plan and schedule, and remember details—all important to a successful college career. This program will help students and parents understand executive function challenges and find support when attending college.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 9:15 A.M.—STUDENTS WITH AUTISM; THE TRANSITION TO COLLEGE AND BEYOND

This program will help parents and educators with students with Autism Spectrum Disorder to understand the changes in educational law and regulations, the challenges students on the spectrum face in college, and the best ways to support students as they transition to college.

TOUR THE UNIVERSE WITH THE CINCINNATI OBSERVATORY

Adults can join astronomers from the Cincinnati Observatory to learn about stars, planets, comets and more.

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 6:30 P.M., GREEN TOWNSHIP BRANCH LIBRARY

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 6:30 P.M., ANDERSON BRANCH LIBRARY

MONDAY, MAY 21, 6:30 P.M., NORTH CENTRAL BRANCH LIBRARY
Friends’ members: The annual meeting of the Friends of the Public Library is **Friday, May 18 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Huenefeld Tower Room at the Main Library (800 Vine Street, downtown). Please RSVP to friendsofplch1@fuse.net by May 15, or call 513-369-6035.

The Friends of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is grateful for your generous support over the past few months. We couldn’t help but notice! From our Library Friends’ Shop Open House 2017 through the Winter Used Book Sale at the Warehouse, member and patron visits are on the upswing this spring. Donations are up, too. We appreciate your generosity during our Cincinnati Gives campaign.

We’ve seen more of you at the Library Friends’ Shop downtown and the Friends’ Used Book Store at the Warehouse in Hartwell than in years past. You’re following our Facebook page, our events, and volunteering with us more regularly. We are thrilled! It is our hope that we will carry forward this FRIENDS-ly tradition for years to come. Please join our effort to promote literacy to Cincinnati and Hamilton County citizens.

Our volunteers are a creative bunch, each contributing their own expertise. Combined volunteer efforts never cease to amaze us.  

**LIBRARY FRIENDS SHOP**

The Friends at the Shop are thankful as well. This season, we offer an up-to-date selection of thank you notes, blank cards, stationery, and small gifts to help you remember someone’s generosity or support. We even have notecards to specifically thank our military for their service. Be sure to stop in regularly. Our stock is always changing and well-priced!

**ANNUAL FRIENDS’ APPRECIATION SALE**

**MONDAY, APRIL 16 – MONDAY, APRIL 30.**

Members will enjoy significant savings on almost everything in the shop.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW**

**FRIENDS’ 46TH ANNUAL JUNE USED BOOK SALE | JUNE 2–8**

More details coming in the next issue of Links.

The Friends’ Used Book Store at the Warehouse is our official new name in Hartwell. We are making some changes and would like you to know that we are still in the same location with the same hours of operation. Our address is still 8456 Vine Street, 45216, and our phone number is 513-369-6035.

Find more information about the Friends and our sales by visiting Friends.CincinnatiLibrary.org, our Facebook page or call 513-369-6035 for the Used Book Store at the Warehouse and 513-369-6920 for the Library Friends Shop downtown.
Thank you

The following gifts were received between September 16 and December 31, 2017. For more information about donating to the Library Foundation, visit our website at www.CincinnatiLibraryFoundation.org.

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3Bs Book Club

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Sarah Johnson
Laura Kirk
Melissa Knight in memory of Mrs. Esther Harmony
Janet L. Kramer in memory of Beulah Weppler
Randolph Krumm
Stacey Kutish
Pamela A. Lape
Donna F. Lell in honor of Jill Grisco for the Madisonville Branch Library
Ruth Levy
Heather Lewis
Margaret and Gene Masur in honor of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Barbara and Glenn Groh
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mattingly
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Melcher
Farhad Minwalla
Vicki Newell
Mary Lee and Don Olinger in honor of Janet Smith
Danae Orlins
Jennifer E. Osier
Zigang Pan
Julie Peterson
Nancy L. Phelan
Elaine Reubel
Matthew Rober
Janette M. Rolcik
Deborah Roney
Monique Rothschild
Christy Rothwell
Donna J. Salmon
The Sams Family in memory of Max, beloved pet of Phil Harvey
Dania Smith and Kent Lyle
Robert A. Smith in memory of Bob Klosterman
Sogetsu Cincinnati Branch for the Maderia Branch Library
Diane E. Steele in memory of Robert C. Steele
Elizabeth and Joe Stewart-Pirone
Judy Stober
Mary Ann Terlinden
Mary Ann Thomas in memory of Jeanne Clark
Gabriel Venzin
Martin H. Vitz in memory of Carl Vitz
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Wahle
Jennifer Walke in memory of Mocha, beloved friend of Adam, Andrea, Logan and Asher
William J. Walls
Dorothy Weil in memory of Sidney Weil
Kristin Weiss
James Wesner

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PJ Abell in memory of Lou and Bud, beloved cats of John Stork
Sarah Adams in memory of Boone, beloved pet of Elizabeth and Justin Bolduc
Jane Allan, Kathleen Bormann, Marissa Burroughs, Kathy and Louis, Claybon, Carol Fowler, Mary Haug, in memory of Barbara Greer Self
Yolanda M. Alvarez
Chinita Anderson
Lisa Arnett in memory of Little Lamb
Kathleen M. Bailey
Elizabeth A. Batcheller
Walt Benn
Shirlee C. Bloom
Mr. and Mrs. Jon B. Boss
Teresa Boykin
Joyce A. Braun in memory of Carl F. Braun
Colette Brehm, Barb Shively in memory of Betty Brehm, designated for the children’s library at the Delhi Branch Library
Mr. and Mrs. James P. Bruckmann
Emily Burkot
Sagoree Chatterjee
Leslie Clark in memory of Whisper, beloved pet of Amy and John Rossbach
Inez Clayton
Bonnie Collins in honor of Dr. Michael Leadbetter
Marilyn Collins
Phyllis Crawford in memory of Reu, beloved pet of Eugene and Shelly Hoffman
D. Peyton Enterprises
Sabrina Darnowsky
Cecilia Davis
Julie Dean
Chris Doerman
Jennifer Nerone Donahue in memory of Sammy and in memory of Quincy Jones, beloved pet of The Ledfords
Phillis Dwyer
Joanne Earls
Shannon Eck
$49 AND UNDER (CONT.)
Mr. and Mrs. Don Elbert in memory of Gracie, beloved pet of Don Elbert
Bonnie Farr
Ellen Feld
Virginia Fisher
Ron and Jackie Fite in memory of Lacy, beloved dog of Maren Pickering and Time Meyer
Kerry F. Gardiner
Couper G. Gardiner
Karen Glink in memory of Sophie, beloved pet of Diane Beyersdorfer
Theresa L. Gregg
Elizabeth Goodrich in memory of Pepper Winkler, beloved pet of The Winkler Family
Lauren Grooms
C. Richard Groth
Harriett S. Hart
Ned Heeger-Brehm
Martha Herlihy
Gene J. Hessler
The Honorable Lee H. Hildebrandt, Jr.
Tamara Hils in memory of beloved pet Jake
Carol A. Hodgeman
Chaille Holt
Edwin Hopping
R. Brad Hudepohl
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Hudson
Carol and Carl Huether
Ricky D. Johnson
Imane Khayat
Mary Kiernan
Sue M. Kircher
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Kline in memory of Khaki Ritchey, beloved pet of Dean and Dayna Ritchey
Kolar Design in memory of Harlie Scopetto, beloved pet of Morgan Scopetto and Jay Rottinghaus
Pat and Walter Koral in memory of Jeanne Clark
Pamela C. Korte
Nancy Kozak
Eileen Kues in honor of Judith Hutchinson’s birthday and in memory of Tammy, beloved cat of Aunt Helen Lakota Retired Teachers Book Club
Richard Lautenslager in memory of Jo Ann Lautenslager
Patti and John Lewis in memory of Marie Keller
Sue K. Lumb in memory of Margaret (Peggy) Fisk
Karen L. Mandel
Terrence Mangan
Peggy Ann Markstein in honor of David Huberfield
Judith Masset-Brown
Linda Mauntel in memory of Mrs. Esther Harmony
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Mayer in memory of Lexie Smith, beloved pet of the Smith Family
Frank McNicholas
Rob Merrill
Angela Mitchell
Angie Monk
Lindsay Nichols in honor of Effie Schehl
Gwendolyn C. Peerless
Mario Pellegrino
April Piatt
Ronald Plybon
Katherine Pridemore
Debbie and Ken Richter
B.J. Robinson
Delana Sanders
John Savage
John H. Schmitz
William Schorr
Ray Schumacher
Donna Schweikert
Steven L. Selss
Maria A. Sierra in memory of Sonny, beloved pet of Lynne Stern
Prerak Shah
Janet M. Smith
Richard Sprigg
Thomas Storey
Barbara Stough in memory of Hank
Ms. Mary Jo Strauss
Bill and Marilyn Thiemann
Christine Timney on behalf of Amy Feldkamp
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vaughan
Terry Viel
Greg Voorhies and Gloria Esenwein
in memory of Jasmine, beloved cat of Elaine Adams
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Waldvogel
Geri Walsh
Anthony Wehby
Mary A. White
Buzz and Lois Widlansky
Sarah Wigser
Mary Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Winrow
Mr. John Winstel
Jennifer Woods
Donna Yeager
Eileen Yeoh in memory of Bitsy, beloved dog of Carolyn Ong
Dr. Frank Zemlan and Dr. Cheryle Webb
In 2016, the Folger Shakespeare Library displayed First Folios in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico to mark the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death. Folger selected the Cincinnati Museum Center to design the exhibits, handle logistics, and escort the folios to each venue. In recognition of a successful tour, Folger lent its First Folio for a special exhibit just for Cincinnati: Shakespeare and the Queen City.

As part of this exhibit, the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County lent its second and fourth Shakespeare folios. You can see them by visiting the Joseph S. Stern, Jr. Cincinnati Room at the Main Library or online at Digital.CincinnatiLibrary.org.

SECOND FOLIO

The First Folio sold very well and a second edition, known as the Second Folio, was printed in 1632. The text of the Second Folio remained largely the same as the First Folio, though it included nearly 1,700 minor corrections, fixed typographical errors, and made spelling changes for consistency. The one addition was a poem about William Shakespeare by John Milton. The folio came from the estate of John J. Emery, the developer of the Carew Tower.

FOURTH FOLIO

The collection of Shakespeare’s plays went into a fourth printing in 1685, known as the Fourth Folio. The Fourth Folio includes seven additional plays only one of which is now believed to be the work of William Shakespeare. This book was the final edition that strictly followed the format established in the First Folio, including the frontispiece featuring the engraved portrait by Martin Droeshout. The portrait was produced after Shakespeare died, but because it was approved by his friends it is believed to be a good likeness. Shakespeare’s Fourth Folio was given to the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County in 1961 from the Friends of the Library as the “2 millionth book” added to its collection.

ALL LIBRARY LOCATIONS WILL BE CLOSED Sunday, April 1, for the Easter holiday and Monday, May 28, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday