



Ripley Public Library  
Bookworm Newsletter  
April 2025

Volume 14, Issue 4

### Hours of Operation

Monday 10am-5pm  
Tuesday 10am-7:30pm  
Wednesday 10am-5pm  
Thursday 10am-7:30pm  
Friday 10am-5pm  
Saturday 9am-2pm

Contact Information:  
64 W. Main St.  
Ripley, NY 14775  
716-736-3913  
ripleylibrary.org

*Ripley Library Board:*  
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*Clerks: Stephanie Feiss*  
*& Annie Donofrio*  
*Program Director:*  
*Nancy McIntosh*  
*Bookworm/About Town*  
*Editor: Nancy McIntosh*  
*Publisher: Robyn Albright*  
*Media Guru: Linda Probst*

*Best Friends Welcome You*

# POETRY READING NIGHT

*Join us for a night where words  
come alive through poetry*

**Thursday, April 17th**  
**6:00 to 7:00 pm**

*Feel free to bring your own work,  
or your favorite poem from another...*

**RIPLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**64 West Main St, Ripley NY**  
**716-736-3913**

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**Library Board meeting, Wednesday, April 16th @ 6pm**  
**Best Friends Fund Meeting: Saturday, April 19th @ 12:30pm**

# Coming up in April

## **Book Club**

**Meets the 1st Monday of the month at 5:30pm**

**April Book:**

***And Then There Were None***

**By Agatha Christie**

## **Author Night**

**Tuesday, April 8th @ 6pm**

**Charlotte and the Mischievous Cat**

**By D.M. Swanson**

## **Nutrition with Molly**

**Thursday, April 3 @ 11am**

**Tuesday April 29 @ 6pm**

## **Poetry Night**

**Tuesday, April 17th @ 6pm**

**Recite your favorite or bring your own!**

## **Sewing Group**

**Every Thursday at noon.**

**Quilters and sewers of all levels are welcome.**

## **Knitting & Crochet Group**

**Every Tuesdays at noon.**

**All levels welcome.**

## **Stay & Play**

**Tuesday mornings at 10:30a.m.**

## **Diamond Art (Dot Doers)**

**Tuesdays @ 4:30pm**

D. M. Swanson

# Charlotte and The Mischievous Cat



Tuesday, April 8 at 6pm

Ripley Public Library

## MINUTES OF BFF MEETING—MARCH 15, 2025

Meeting was held on March 15, 12:30 p.m. Attending were Rhonda Thompson, Laurie Fisher, Michelle Henry, Stephanie Feiss, Linda Lowes, Diane O'Brien, and Robyn Albright.

Discussed:

Purchasing storage units with grant money received from Ripley Community Heritage Fund. Purchase of 2 cabinets was approved. Amended to cover delivery fee.

Recruiting new BFFs

Getting more people to put business cards in monthly Bookworm

Decided not to have vendor sale on May 17, but will have plant sale and bake sale.

Poetry night will be April 17, 6 to 7:30 with refreshments

Fundraisers, possibly dinner and dance, with a group such as Untouchables

Next BFF meeting will be held April 19

## BOOK REVIEW

By Michelle Henry

**“A Legacy of Labor”** by Pamela A. Brown, 2025

This book provides a wonderful historical account of Chautauqua County's only CCC camp. The CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) was a program created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933 to employ young men and to preserve and nurture this country's natural resources. During the Great Depression, many young men were unable to find work; devastating forest fires and severe erosion had destroyed farmland and forests. The CCC provided a solution to both problems by employing young men to plant trees, build fire walls, construct dams, establish fish hatcheries, and develop campgrounds.

Chautauqua County's only CCC camp was located on State Forest land on Goshen Road in Panama. The author, local historian Pamela Brown, did an incredible amount of research about the camp, its “enrollees,” as the young men were called, and the work that was accomplished at both the Panama site and at the Randolph Fish Hatchery, a subcamp of men from the Panama camp. Brown researched the national CCC program, the Panama camp itself, and the men who were involved there, providing both a broad contextual description of the program and personal, first-hand accounts of life at the camp.

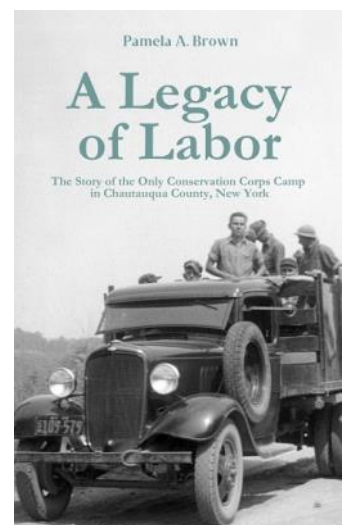
The enrollees didn't just work – there were classes to teach them trade skills like machine

shop and electrical engineering. They were taught to read and write, to eat well-balanced meals, and they published their own newspaper. Many men left the CCC with the skills needed to build successful futures for themselves.

The book is filled with wonderful illustrations, photographs, and maps to illustrate the camp and the men stationed there, and the many projects they completed. In 1935, the first year of operation, the work included planting 1,467 acres of trees, mapping 1,000 acres of land, eradicating 1,845 acres of underbrush, constructing 31 acres of firebreak, digging two fish ponds, and much more.

Today's county residents are still benefiting from the work done nearly 100 years ago by this federal program, and we have Pamela A. Brown to thank for bringing us this fascinating and little-known story of our local history. Brown is the municipal historian for the Towns of Harmony and North Harmony, and the Village of Panama. She is a NYS certified historian. This is her third book. A book signing event will be scheduled soon. To order the book, go to:

<https://www.amazon.com/Legacy-Labor-Conservation-Chautauqua-County/dp/B0DWG41MDD>.





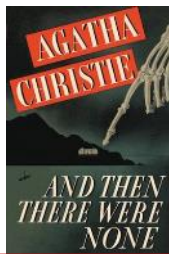
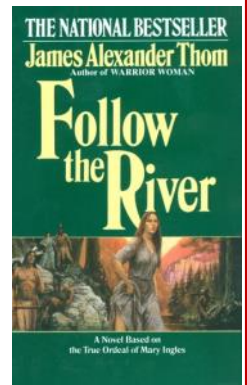
## BOOK REVIEW

By Diane O'Brien

### **FOLLOW THE RIVER** by James Alexander Thom

A fascinating novel that tells the true story of Mary Ingles, captured by Shawnee Indians in 1755 in Virginia at the age of 23. Mary was pregnant with her third child, giving birth on the trail. She vowed one day to return to her people by memorizing the path they took to the Indian settlement.

After a few years of captivity, Mary, along with another captive, Ghetel, escaped and made their way hundreds of miles up the Ohio River to her home in Virginia, enduring cold and starvation. They separated at one point due to Ghetel's mental decline and a disagreement over food. Eventually, by herself and near death, she managed to find her way home.



## Book Club

### 1st Monday of every month

### April 7th @ 5:30pm

*And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie



VFW Post 2769

Dave Bower, Commander

Ripley Town Building

Meetings 4th  
Thursday  
10:30a.m.

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Ripley Community and Heritage Fund



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<https://parkviewcafeandcatering.com>

Courtney Thompson  
Owner

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Pete & Sue Ryan

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Shara Post  
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT  
BRANCH MANAGER  
NMLS ID: 1844629

P: 716.326.3145  
F: 716.326.4065  
[shara.post@cbna.com](mailto:shara.post@cbna.com)

cbna.com

155 YEARS  
1870-2025

Hello! And Happy Spring!!!! I hope everything is starting to feel fresh and new for everyone out there. Even if the weather does not always feel like Spring, we know the worst is behind us and fair weather is in front of us.

We have things hopping around here at the library. As we are putting the month of March behind us and another Art Show is in the books, we are looking forward to April and Poetry Month. We will have a night of poets this year like no other. I encourage all of you to come out and see it or participate this year.

We will also have an Author's night with one of our favorites. Dawn Swanson will be here with her newest book. She is a great children's author and a must see. Please come see her and support her by purchasing a book for a child in your life.

Remember April Fools' Day is this month! I am always ready for practical jokes. Be sure to have some fun with this and enjoy a harmless joke with

friends and families. I remember the year I wrote about the joke played by the BBC about a poor spaghetti crop in Italy in 1957.



Of course, we also have Easter to celebrate this month. I am hoping since it is a little later this year that the weather might be a bit warmer. I remember as a kid, Easter always seemed to be nice and we spent the whole Easter break from school tying grapes and working on our tan. We had outdoor Easter egg hunts and spent time with cousins and family we did not see real often. Don't forget, the Auxiliary is putting on an egg hunt for the little ones again this year. Take them for the egg hunt and to see the Easter Bunny. However you choose to celebrate, make it special and remember to include the library in your plans during April.

See you at the library,

**Kathy Holland**  
Owner/ Stylist

**Main Studio**  
10660 West Main Road  
North East, PA 16428

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814-725-4321

**Westfield Main Diner**  
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40 E Main Street  
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Phone: 716.326.4351

## Fabulous 50 Readers!

**We have two readers in the Fabulous 50 Challenge who have completed FIFTY books! Annie Donofrio and Cindy Pierce will receive a \$20 prize!**

**Register for the Fabulous 50 and make sure you fill in the books read on the chart. Completed 25 books and receive a prize as well.**





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**ROBYN NEAR**  
 AUTHOR, FREE LANCE WRITER  
 cell 716-581-0309  
 robynnearsalbright@gmail.com  
 Ripley, NY 14775

**The Best Friends Fund  
is Proud  
to be a part of the  
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**Molly Harvey, a SNAP-ED Nutritionist from the Cornell Co-op Extension,** visits the Ripley library twice a month to share recipes that are not only yummy, but healthy and inexpensive. Taste testing is always a component of her visits. If you've never been, give it a try. Each session is different and always a rollicking good time!

Thursday, April 3rd @ 11am

Tuesday, April 29th @ 6pm

**Diamond Art** meets Tuesdays @ 4:30 (Dot Doers)

Trial size available for free, then purchase the kits you like.



**Sewing Group** meets Thursdays at noon.

Quilters and sewers of all levels are welcome.



**Knitting & Crochet Group** meets Tuesdays at noon. All levels welcome.



## APRIL NEW BOOK LIST

### ADULT FICTION

Armstrong/The Poisoner's Ring  
 Box/Battle Mountain  
 Brunstetter/The Rise and Fall of Miss Fannie's Biscuits  
 Chamberlain/The Dream Daughter  
 Chronister/The Bog Wife  
 Clipston/The View from Coral Cove  
 Comey/Westport  
 Donlea/The Girl Who was Taken  
 Kingfisher/A Sorceress Comes to Call  
 McFadden/The Housemaid's Wedding  
 Milliken/Kept Animals  
 Moody/The Journey from War  
 Moyes/We All Live Here  
 Patterson/Paranoia  
 Reay/The Berlin Letters  
 Sanders/Don't Let Her Stay  
 Turner/The Keeper of Stars  
 Yarros/Great and Precious Things

### NONFICTION

Clarren/The Cost of Free Land  
 Hayes/The Girl in the Green Dress  
 Simmons/The Pocket Book of Stones  
 Stille/The United States Navy in WW2

### PAPERBACKS

Barrett/Bookmarked for Death

Kastner/Their Unbreakable Bond  
 L'Amour/Chancy  
 Lynn/Hidden Amish Target  
 Swanson/Murder of a Bookstore Babe

### YOUNG ADULT

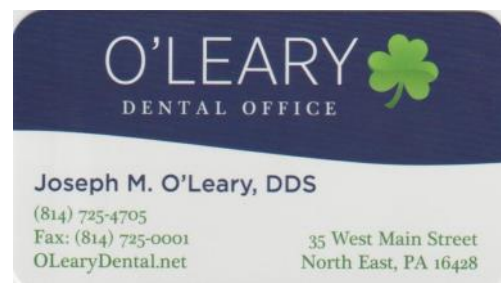
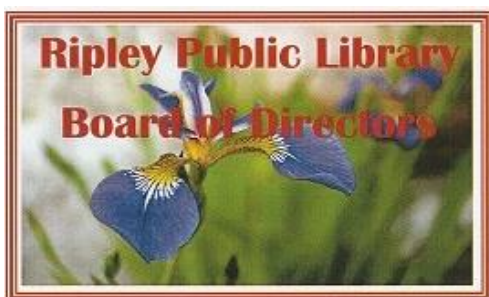
Mari/Halfway There  
 Riley/The Cure  
 Shusterman/The Skinjacker Trilogy  
 -Everlost  
 -Everwild  
 -Everfound

### JUNIOR BOOKS

Dee/Energy Wars  
 Gerry/Water  
 LaCour/Ella Josephine and the Apartment House on Poppy Hill

### EASY READERS

Bankson/Tito's Coconut Tree  
 Bergren/God Gave Us Easter  
 Bryant/Holidayville's Lucky Easter Surprise  
 Curtis/Osprey Adventure  
 Tighe/My Favorite Book  
 Wallace/How to Catch a Mermaid





## **Ripley Library is looking for Local Authors**

We invite published (including self-published) writers to come and speak to our audience, telling us a little bit about yourself and your book. This is generally followed by a Q&A period and a book signing. Call the library now and we'll set up a date. 716-736-3913

## **Library Cards Your Passport to Adventure**

If you need a library card, come see us and we will help get you into the IN crowd. If you haven't renewed your card, we can take care of that too!



Welcome to a world of adventure!

## **Fabulous 50**

We invite booklovers everywhere to join. The goal is to read 50 books in a two-year period. For every 25 books you read you will receive a prize.

To enter, register at the library or by phone or email. The list can be picked up at the library or sent to your email. Check off each box as you complete a book and write the name of the book and author. **Contact the library every month to let us know what you've achieved.**

## **Book Chat**

A new Facebook page, sponsored by Ripley Library, will host adult readers who will discuss favorite books, and check out new authors.

**Ripley Readers Retreat will meet, live, online, every Monday, between 3pm til 7pm.**

**Check the Ripley Public Library Facebook page for information about the new page.**



## Stay and Play At Ripley Public Library

**Moms! Every Tuesday at 10:30  
For Babies and Toddlers age 0-4  
years.**

**Join us for lots of socializing, fun,  
toys, books, and refreshments.**

**For more details call  
716-736-3913**



## Need an easy way to donate to the Ripley Library? Bottle and Can Collection

The Library has a collection bin in the lobby for returnable cans and bottles. Don't throw out those water bottles and pop cans! Donate them to the library.

Please be sure all bottles and cans are empty before you place them in the bin.

Reduce, Reuse,  
Recycle



Ripley  
Public  
Library



## DIY Storytime

Each month we will have a new craft and stories available. Families are welcome to do the craft, read a story, or do both!

Available as a Take & Make

**Knight Vineyards**

Ripley, NY



Peaches available late July



Knight Vineyards, LLC

**Timmerman's Fruit Farm  
& Market**

8352 Rt. 20 West

Westfield, NY 14787

## Wanted:

**Lego pieces and Lego sets**

**We will gladly accept any  
used or new Lego items to  
add to our collection.  
Please drop them off at  
the library. Thank you.**



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**Earl C. Freling, D.C.**  
Chiropractor

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Ripley, NY 14775  
716-736-6868

*I Love my library*

**Diane Bentley O'Brien**

## Community Table

The Ripley Public Library welcomes community groups who would like to set up a table in our lobby to promote their business or group. Examples: VFW Poppy sales, Girl Scout cookie sales, as well as distribution of pamphlets or information about your group or activity. A representative for the table must be present for items to be displayed.



Reservations must be made. There is no cost, it's just our way of giving back to the community. 716-736-3913

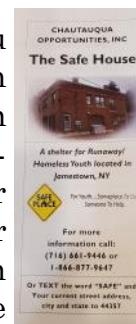
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## Ripley Public Library Has Become a Safe Place Location

What is a Safe Place Location, you might ask? A Safe Place works with the Safe House out of Jamestown and is part of Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. This is a program for runaway or homeless youth under the age of 18. If this young person needs help, all they do is enter the facility displaying the yellow sign that reads SAFE PLACE. They let someone in charge know they need help.





## Best Friends of the Ripley Public Library

### We Need Your Help!

Ripley Library's BFF group (Best Friends Fund) is looking for more members to join us to help with fundraising and program support for our library.

Dues are just \$5 per year. All we ask is that you attend monthly meetings as often as you can, and occasionally help with fundraising events. Funds raised by BFF are used for library equipment and supplies, upgrades, Summer Reading Program, etc.

There are many things to be proud of in Ripley. Our beautiful library is one of those things. Please call 716-736-3913 for more information.

## Best Friends of the Ripley Public Library

### Ripley Library Best Friends Fund Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$5 annually in January

Print this portion and return it to the library, or pick up a form at the library desk.

### Ripley Public Library Mission Statement

The mission of the Ripley Public Library is to promote life-long learning for all community residents, providing unrestricted free access to all printed and recorded material from its own collection as well as that of the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System. The Library will endeavor to create a community center that provides so much more than information for all of those who ask questions and seek answers.

## BEST FRIENDS

Best Friends Fund of Ripley Library  
P. O. Box 808  
Ripley, NY 14775

Phone: 716-736-3913  
Fax: 716-736-3923  
<https://www.ripleylibrary.org>  
Email: [thebookworm14775@gmail.com](mailto:thebookworm14775@gmail.com)

<https://www.ripleylibrary.org>

## Notes & Things

### Email Newsletter

We rely on email to get our newsletter out. Each month you will receive 2 emails, The Bookworm and About Town. For a monthly copy, send your email address to: [thebookworm14775@gmail.com](mailto:thebookworm14775@gmail.com)

If you would like to opt out of our mailing, please let us know at [thebookworm14775@gmail.com](mailto:thebookworm14775@gmail.com)

**\*Also now available—The Bookworm and About Town on the library website <https://www.ripleylibrary.org>**



**Did you know there are no fines for overdue books at the Ripley Public Library?**

### New Activities & Classes

Is there an activity or class you'd like to see offered at the library? Can you teach a class or give a talk about a topic? Let the library know if there is something new you'd like to add to the many programs and classes already offered. 716-736-3913

### Attend a Board Meeting

Ripley Public Library Board of Trustees meetings are open to the public. Check the schedule in The Bookworm for times and dates.

### Ripley Public Library Board of Directors Meetings for 2025



Apr 23  
May 28  
Jun 25  
Jul 23

Aug 27  
Sep 24  
Oct 22  
Nov 26  
Dec TBA

Meetings are open to the public, in person or via Zoom, and will be held at 6p.m. Dates and times subject to change.

### Ripley Public Library is Open for Business

Mon. Wed. Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Tue. Thu. 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.  
Sat. 9 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Please note: all letters and/or emails to the Library and staff **MUST** be signed. Those without a signature will not be recognized. Names will be omitted, to protect privacy, if published.

# April 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		<i>1 Stay&amp;Play 1030a, Knit- ters 12p, Dia- mond Art 4:30p</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3 Molly 11a, Sewing 12p</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7 Book Club 5:30p</i>	<i>8 Stay&amp;Play 10:30a, Knit- ters 12p, Dia- mond Art 4:30p, Authors Night 6p</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10 Sewing 12p</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15 Stay&amp;Play 10:30a, Knit- ters 12p, Dia- mond Art 4:30p</i>	<i>16 Board Meeting 6p</i>	<i>17 Sewing 12p, Poetry Night 6p</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19 BFF 12:30p</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22 Stay&amp;Play 10:30a, Knit- ters 12p, Dia- mond Art 4:30p</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24 Sewing 12p</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29 Stay&amp;Play 10:30a, Knit- ters 12p, Dia- mond Art 4:30p, Molly 6p</i>	<i>30</i>			