LIBRARY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Aimee Fifarek

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

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*non-voting

TRUSTEES EMERITI: Kenneth J. Wilson, Millicent Counts

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FACILITIES/CONSTRUCTION DIRECTOR: David Foster
PROGRAMMING/YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTOR: Josephine Nolfi
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR: Deborah Liptak
TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR: Tom Casey
SUPERVISOR, MICHAEL KUSALABA LIBRARY: Stuart Gibbs
HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR: Darcie Eggleston
MAIN LIBRARY/STAFF DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR: Diane Vicarel
COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT: Brigid Novak
COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR: Janet Loew
Ginny Hazy | Rose Marie Pecchio | Britney Korda | Jeff Mamula

LIBRARY BUILDING AND SITES COMMITTEE:

Alex Benyo, Chair
Richard Atkinson
Terry Dimascio
Dr. David Ritchie, President
Timothy Bresnahan
Thomas Frost

ARCHITECTS AND CONTRACTORS:

Architects .................................................Faniro Architects, Inc., Youngstown, OH
General Trades Contractor ..........................Brock Builders, Inc., North Lima, OH
Plumbing Trades .................................Acme Bros. Plumbing Contractors Co., Leetonia, OH
Mechanical Trades .................................D&G Mechanical, Inc., West Middlesex, PA
Electrical Trades .................................JR Warren Electrical Contracting, Inc., New Castle, PA

Welcome to the New Michael Kusalaba Library

Dedication: Saturday, February 24, 2018

The Public Library of Youngstown & Mahoning County

Groundbreaking Ceremony Held: November 10, 2016
Library Opens to the Public: February 14, 2018
Dedication and Ribboncutting: February 24, 2018
Honoring the memory of Michael Kusalaba, the new branch bears his name. The Youngstown Foundation presented PLYMC with a donation of $1.68 million on behalf of The Michael Kusalaba Fund, specified for a library on the West Side. Youngstown Foundation Executive Director Jan Strasfeld presented the donation to the Library on behalf of the fund.

Who is Michael Kusalaba?
Prior to his death in 2009, Michael Kusalaba established The Michael Kusalaba Fund under the umbrella of The Youngstown Foundation. It was his wish to create a legacy that expressed his passion for the Youngstown area for generations to come. The son of Ukrainian immigrants, Michael and his family moved to Youngstown when he was a young child, and resided on North Maryland Avenue, just east of the original West Library. His siblings, advisors to the Fund, recalled that as children, they walked to the library almost every day and what an important role it played in their lives. Michael did his homework there and liked to spend his free time just looking things up. “The family couldn't have come up with a more fitting tribute to Michael for this first grant award from the Fund,” says Strasfeld.

A 1964 graduate of Chaney High School, Michael earned a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and an MBA from Youngstown State University, and was a board certified electrical engineer. After serving in the U.S. Army, he worked for Ohio Edison/First Energy for over 30 years, starting in the engineering department and retiring as a national account executive.

Michael was instrumental in the development of CASTLO Community Improvement Corporation including 21 years of distinguished service as a CASTLO Trustee and 10 years as Chairman and is credited with developing the Mahoning River Corridor of Opportunity concept, overseeing major improvements to buildings and the construction of new ones.

A Special Thanks to these Generous Donors

Program
Saturday, February 24, 2018

10 AM Doors Open; Meet the Library’s Mascot Booker Bear!
10:15 AM “Cool Chemistry” Program for kids of all ages presented by OH WOW! The Roger & Gloria Jones Children's Center for Science & Technology
11 AM Dedication & Ribboncutting
Color Guard, Cub Scout Pack #22, St. Christine Catholic Church
Invocation, Father William John Loveless, St. Brendan Catholic Church
Dr. David Ritchie, President, Library Board of Trustees, Welcome
Library Executive Director Aimee Fifarek
Lauran McNally, 5th Ward Councilwoman
Mike Ray, 4th Ward Councilman
Deborah Liptak, Library Development Director
11:30 AM Music provided by Silver Strings - Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted
Hands-On Learning Activities
Refreshments by Kravitz Inspired Catering and Dough House Cookies

Michael Kusalaba Library Stakeholders Committee

Michael Kusalaba Branch Donors

Library - MICHAEL KUSALABA TRUST
Funded through The Youngstown Foundation
IN MEMORY OF
NICK & JESSIE SVETH
AND
T. R. VENEABLE JR.

Outdoor Plaza Sponsored
Donor Wall
Michael Kusalaba Stakeholders Committee

Community Foyer sponsored by
THE SLANINA FAMILY
Funded through The Youngstown Foundation

PLATINUM
Michael Kusalaba Stakeholders Committee

Maple Grove Sponsored by
ROCKY RIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

BRONZE
Deborah & Stephen Liptak

Teen Area Sponsored by
THE FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF YOUNGSTOWN & MAHONING COUNTY

Donor Wall
Michael Kusalaba Stakeholders Committee

The Slanina family, through the Youngstown Foundation, presented a check for $10,000 to the Library to sponsor the Community Foyer. (front, from left) John Slanina; Sandra Slanina; Jack Slanina; (back) David Slanina; Jan Strasfeld, Executive Director of the Youngstown Foundation, presenting the check to Aimee Fifarek, Executive Director of the Library; and Deborah Liptak, Development Director.