



Geauga County  
**Public Library**

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## **Press Release**

Geauga County Public Library

Media Contact: Patrick Culliton, Marketing and Communications Manager

440-286-1450

[pculliton@geaugalibrary.net](mailto:pculliton@geaugalibrary.net)

### **Kenyon College Professor to Present on African American History in Rural Ohio**

**Geauga County – January 27, 2020** - Geauga County Public Library, in the final event of their Geauga Civil Rights Series, will bring Ric Sheffield to the Middlefield Branch, 16167 East High Street, on Sat., Feb. 29, 2 p.m. for his presentation "The Community Within: Discovering African American History in Rural Ohio." Please register at [www.GeaugaLibrary.net](http://www.GeaugaLibrary.net)

Funding for this program is made possible by Geauga County Library Foundation and the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The program description on the OHC website reads, "Many rural areas in Ohio have long-established black communities that are often invisible to the larger white communities in which they reside. This program relates the adventure of reclaiming the lost history of African Americans in Knox County, Ohio while explaining the benefits of including minority populations within celebrations of heritage and sharing strategies for undertaking such projects in communities of various sizes and racial and ethnic makeups."

Sheffield is Assistant Professor of Legal Studies and Sociology at Kenyon College and Director of the Law and Society Program. His research has focused on the relationship between the law and issues of gender, race and ethnicity. He has served on the Ohio Supreme Court State Bar Association's Joint Task Force on Gender Fairness.

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Caption: Ric Sheffield to present on African American history in rural Ohio at GCPL's Middlefield Branch feb. 29, 2 p.m.

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### **About the Geauga County Public Library**

The Geauga County Public Library includes four full-service Branches in Bainbridge, Chardon, Chesterland (Gauga West) and Middlefield, two library stations housed in schools in Newbury and Thompson, and a Mobile Services fleet that serves rural areas and community centers. Its Administrative Center is located in Chardon, where technical services, computer services, facilities and administrative functions reside, along with a full-service public library space with limited hours of service (Monday – Friday only). GCPL houses more than 750,000 books and digital books. The collection also contains nearly 70,000 audio / video items. About 75 research databases are available via its website. GCPL is a member of the Clevnet consortium, giving patrons access to more than 12 million items. Learn more about the Geauga County Public Library at [GaugaLibrary.net](http://GaugaLibrary.net)