The Bard

bard, n. ¹ pronunciation: /ˈbɑːrd/
An ancient Celtic order of minstrel-poets, whose primary function appears to have been to compose and sing (usually to the harp) verses celebrating the achievements of chiefs and warriors, and who committed to verse historical and traditional facts, religious precepts, laws, genealogies, etc.

~from The Oxford English Dictionary (OED)

The OED dates the first written use of the term “bard” back to 1448. My first introduction to the term was in 1976 during reading group in Mrs. Egner’s second grade classroom. I was seven years old. Mrs. Egner had the group sit on carpet squares with our big weekly reading books for the session. That day she had us read, The Bard. This short story was set far into the future and was about two children who had never seen a printed “book.” Their household had a large, desktop machine that read stories to them. The machine was called...the Bard.

The children had heard about printed “books” from their grandparents, although these “books” were no longer in existence. They questioned why anyone would ever want such an item and wondered what folks did with them once they were through reading them. I remember one of the children surmising that people “probably just threw them away” when done reading. I thought the story was way out there at the time.

THIRTY-EIGHT years after reading “The Bard,” (ouch) I’ve found myself working in a library of printed “books” alongside desktop machines that can do more than we ever imagined. I recently learned that Athens County Law Library in Athens, Ohio is no longer updating any print resources, opting to go all-digital. In San Antonio, Texas, the first “bookless” public library opened in the fall of 2013. Many colleges have had all-digital libraries for quite some time. “Bookless” is becoming the trend with the major advances in technology. There are pros and cons to each side of the issue. I know I can look up almost any detail on my iPhone faster than I can make a trip to the public library. However, when my Kindle e-Reader died while I was midflight to California, I was asking myself why I didn’t pack a paperback. I certainly cannot imagine getting rid of my personal library of printed books.

We aren’t at the point of going all-digital at the Lake County Law Library. However, we do need to begin thinking about how our resources will be delivered to our users in order to plan for the future. Are you a print resources fan or an electronic resources fan? Would you like to see e-Books in the library? If you have thoughts or preferences on the subject, please share them with me at: Sandra.Murphy@lakecountyohio.gov.

Have a great spring!

Sandra E. Murphy
**National Library Week:**

is April 13-19, 2014. We will be celebrating by offering coffee and refreshments each day during the week. If you’re in the area, stop in to say hello, grab a cuppa, and learn more about our materials and services available!

**Technology Tip**

What is Evernote?

Evernote is a personal, online notebook that can be shared or synced across several electronic devices such as smartphones, tablets, computers, and the Web. Evernote is used to create to-do lists, set reminders, collect and save project notes, save important webpages with links and any other information you wish to save and have access to at anytime or anyplace.

The software is available in free and premium editions and offers the ability to organize, tag, search and even share your information for easy access.

To learn more about the Evernote notebook software browse the online tutorial at: http://evernote.com

**Library Tours & Intern Training**

Did you know the Lake County Law Library offers tours to summer interns and new employees, as well as class visits?

If you have a new summer intern, staff member, or teach a class, please don’t hesitate to schedule some time for a visit to the Lake County Law Library! We are happy to assist you by showing new users how to use our print and electronic resources!

Please call the library to schedule a one-on-one, new user training session or a class tour at: 440-350-2638.

**Used Book Sale Titles**

We update our resource collection with new editions on a regular basis. Softbound discarded titles and CDs are only $5.00 each. Hardbound discarded titles are $10.00 each. Sale titles include:

- Ohio Consumer Law Manual 2013
- Bankruptcy Code (Parts 1-2) 2013
- Immigration Law & Defense Fall 2013
- Florida Rules of Court (Local, State & Federal) 2013

**Services**

The law library shall provide legal research, reference, and library services to County and State employees, authorized legal practitioners, and their staffs. Services are as follows:

- Print library of over 1600 titles
- Laptops with Microsoft Office
- Sony digital camcorder
- Optoma media projector with screen
- Audio tapes, video tapes, and anatomical models and charts
- Portable X-Ray view box for courtroom presentations
- Reference assistance and technical training
- Wireless internet access throughout the library
- Complimentary copy of Connexus
- Document enlargement to various poster size along with matching frames
- Polycom VSX 7000 videoconferencing equipment with multipoint software for depositions, testimony, etc. **
- Fax service to or from your home or office **
- Photocopies **

** Fees for service may be charged