

To the Editor,

Voting For Issue 4 on the November ballot is worth it.

I think it's important to research every levy that appears on the ballot. Will the levy provide value to the community? Is there an increase, and if so, will it put a burden on property owners? Who ultimately benefits from passing the levy?

In the case of Issue 4, Stark Library's levy, I believe voting For is imperative.

Issue 4 is an operational levy that includes a modest adjustment to maintain current services – not an expansion. The levy renews the 2 mill passed in 2019 and includes a 0.3 mill increase. This comes to only \$55 per \$100,000 of the county auditor's market value per year. A mere \$11 increase since 2019, and just \$.15 a day – the cost of one black and white paper copy at the library.

State funding was recently reduced by \$350,000. Costs of materials, salaries and benefits for staff, security services, property insurance, and vehicle repairs/maintenance have all increased significantly. Issue 4 looks to make up for these factors by supporting early literacy and school readiness, access to library materials, technology access, computers, Wi-Fi, printing, scanning, faxing, local workforce job help, daily services people rely on, open hours, staff, meeting rooms, study rooms, and maintenance and care of recent building improvements.

If Issue 4 fails, Stark Library would be forced to make reductions to library hours, programs, services and materials, and access to public computers and technology. When you consider that Stark Library welcomed over 633,000 people through their doors in 2025, it's hard to imagine these services going away.

When you consider what is at stake, Issue 4 just makes sense.

Please consider voting FOR Issue 4 on the November ballot.

Sincerely,

 **VOTE FOR
ISSUE 4**