

Derby Day Hat Decoration

Thursday, April 20 at 7 p.m.

The Kentucky Derby has become almost as much about fashion as the horse racing itself. Going to this horse racing event became an opportunity to show off the latest in spring fashions with hats and fascinators playing a huge role as a trademark accessory in those lavish Derby Day fashions. What is a fascinator you ask? A fascinator is a fun alternative to a hat, a headpiece that acts as an accent for the hair. Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge, is frequently photographed wearing a fascinator, as it's one of her favorite accessories.

Join us on April 20, 2017, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Ransom District Library for a fun program presented by local felt maker/milliner, Dawn Edwards. The program will consist of a short video showing the making of one of Dawn's hats, and will conclude with a hands-on feltmaking activity where you will make your very own felt flower fascinator, fit to give the thoroughbreds at the Derby a run for their money. Participants should bring a towel. All other materials provided. Space is limited. Registration required.

Cluttered Lives:

Understanding Hoarding Disorder

Thursday, May 11 at 7 p.m.

Learn what hoarding is and isn't, what causes it, and how to best address and treat it, as well as exploring your own relationship to "stuff." Presented by addiction therapist Terrence Shulman, Founder/Director of the Shulman Center for Compulsive Theft, Spending and Hoarding and author of *Cluttered Lives, Empty Souls*.

Michigan Works Friday Morning Workshops Coming Soon!

Looking for a new job? Need a little help? Join us for these free workshops put on by Allegan County Michigan Works coming soon to Ransom District Library. Call the library at 685-8024 for dates and details. Registration will be required.

Personal Branding: 30 Second Infomercial

Resume Writing

Career Exploration

Interviewing Skills

Get Smoking at Ransom: Advanced Grilling Techniques

Thursday, May 25 at 7 p.m.

You may know how to grill but do you know how to smoke? Be prepared for summer cookouts with tips from local CRPC and grill master Don Weyenberg. Registration is required for this tasty class.

Women's Self Defense Class

Saturday, June 24 at 10 a.m.

Taught by Master Scott of Tae Kwon Do USA located in Repz Gym. Registration required. For women age 13 and up.

Feng Shui 101

Thursday, July 27 at 7 p.m.

Learn the Chinese art of placement that deflects ill fortune and attracts good luck by harnessing and harmonizing environmental forces. Instructor Christina Thompson is a certified massage therapist and holds a diploma in Traditional Chinese Acupuncture. Registration required.

The Beatles: Band of the Sixties

Wednesday, September 20 at 7 p.m.

Explore the music of The Beatles in this 60-minute multimedia presentation (part history and part musical analysis) spanning the full 1960's: beginning with the band's seminal visits to Hamburg, continuing through Beatlemania, and concluding with Abbey Road. The program will be supplemented with audio clips of music and excerpts from interviews with the band members.



Mary Whiteford Office Hours

Monday, April 24 from 11 a.m. - Noon

Come meet your state representative.

Join Us for a Special Evening of Poetry Reading

Thursday, May 18 at 7 p.m.

Poets Kathleen McGookey, Elizabeth Kerlikowske, and Cindy Hunter Morgan will be reading.

Ongoing Programs

Genealogy Help

Offered on Wednesday Mornings

This is a great opportunity to learn about genealogy from our experts!

Book a Geek

New at Ransom Library: book a private tutor for your basic technology questions! Need a little help with your laptop, figuring out Excel or downloading digital books? Call the library at 685-8024 to set up a 30 minute session.

Color Me Calm "Adult" Coloring Club

Thursdays: April 6, May 25, and June 8 at 7 p.m.

Release your inner child and join us each month for a coloring get-together. Coloring is a fun and unique way to unwind and express creativity. And it can actually lower stress. All materials will be provided. Just drop in and join us!

Ransom Library Starts Seed Exchange

A seed library is a self-perpetuating collection of heirloom seeds. Donations of saved seeds are needed to start our library. The more seeds in the library, the more others can experience growing their own food. Seeds will be accepted if they are properly dried and identified. If donating commercial seeds, please be sure that the seeds are non-hybrid and non-Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) seeds.



Registration Required

Just the Basics Computer Class

Saturday, May 6 at 2 p.m.

Are you new to using computers? Do you wonder what people mean when they say the cloud, Windows, ISP, or app? Then this is the class for you.

Ransom Author Fair Registration



Ransom District Library invites local authors and illustrators to attend our fourth annual author fair to be held on Thursday, May 4 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Whether you are an avid reader or aspiring writer, the fair provides an excellent opportunity to talk with local writers about their books and purchase signed copies.

This year's keynote speaker will be Kristina Riggle, who lives and writes in West Michigan. Her debut novel, *Real Life & Liars*, was a Target "Breakout" pick and a "Great Lakes, Great Reads" selection by the Great Lakes Independent Booksellers Association. Author fair registration forms may be picked up at the library or requested by email for authors who would like to participate.

Sharron Ansell | www.wewalkinpeace.com

Sharron is a retired elementary educator who loves to read children's stories. She has read thousands of stories to her students over the past 41 years of teaching. Thus, she was inspired to write the books; *Seagulls, Snails and Whale Tales, Timothy the Turtle, Shoe-riffic Jokes* and is working on *The Best Pug Ever*.

Suzanne Brockway

Suzanne is author of *Memoirs of the Pet Sitter: A Journey with the Other Creatures of our Lives*. She lives in Richland.

Brenda Conley

Brenda is the author of the Christian fiction series *Carried by Angels*. Brenda's writing is something that God gives her as a mission to serve Him. Brenda writes under ANGEL WING MINISTRIES and has a passion for broken women and the youth who will change our world.

Fortune Larkam | www.fortunelarkam1.com

Fortune is the author of *Life Beyond a Label*. She wrote the book about what it has been like living with a mental illness. It's a book of poetry and a story all in one! If you have been curious about what it's like for someone who has a mental illness she encourages you to read her book.

Angela Renee

Author of *Abby's Vampire, WereCat Avenue* and *Vanished* Angela has always loved to read and as soon as she found romance she was hooked. After careful consideration, she decided to self publish rather than try to get traditionally published. Angela has four self published books. She grew up in the Detroit area, moved to Las Vegas for three years, and now lives in Holland with her husband and two kids.

Ingar Rudholm | traveling-circus.net

In 2010, Ingar's mother passed away leaving behind a set of brushes, a box of paints, and several art history books. *Traveling Circus* is Ingar's first illustrated novel and includes a lot of famous painters, but it is also a tribute to the first artist Ingar ever knew and loved: his mother.

Theresa Sours | www.theresasoursauthor.com

Shadows from the Fire is her first published book, though she has written countless other tales since early childhood.

Christina Thompson

Author of *The Chemical Attraction Series*

Peter Welmerink | grandrapidsaltered.blogspot.com

He writes Fantasy, Military SciFi, and other wanderings into action-adventure. He is the co-author of the Viking berserker novel, *Bedlam Unleashed*. *Transport* was his first solo novel.



Ransom District Library Offers Hoopla

Ransom Library is now offering Hoopla to our resident card holders. Hoopla is digital app that brings books, audiobooks, comic books, music, movies and TV shows to your smartphone, tablet or computer.

Go to hoopladigital.com to get the app and get started. You'll need a library card and an email address to sign up. Limit 5 titles per month.

Friends of RDL News

Thanks to all who continue to donate books and DVDs to the library for our book sales. We use the funds from our sales to purchase new books and sponsor programs for the library. Our next book sale date is **Saturday, May 20** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We can always use volunteers and new members. If you have an hour or two that you could volunteer or would like to join us, please give Char a call at 269-685-6646.

Dr. Seuss Night

Tuesday, March 7, 2017, was the 20th time that Dr. Seuss Night has taken place at Ransom District Library. This tradition was begun in 1998 by The Friends of Ransom Library.

Kids and parents arrived at 7 p.m. Four areas were set up for the event. Dr. Seuss books were read by Dana Levine and Dr. Morey Edwards in one area; Mayor Richard Brooks and Eric Wilson read in another area. Chris Haas led Seuss Bingo and Fish/Guess in a third area. Macy led other Seuss games in a fourth area. Wranglers for the evening were Ryan Burt, Janice Handley, Eileen Herrera, and Mary Wright.

Seuss characters roaming the library were: Thing I—Kyana Bishop, Thing II—Hailey Smith, the Grinch—Oakley Bishop, and the Cat in the Hat—Zack Moore. Stacy Levine and Kelly Burt helped with the activities. Thanks to Erin and Joe for their help too. About 120 kids received treat bags as they left the library. Thanks to all who helped and participated.

— Jan Ragainis, President of the Friends

☆ SPRING BREAK FUN @ THE LIBRARY

Teen Video Game Tournament

Friday, March 31 · 1:30-3:30 p.m.

The NCAA has basketball, but at RDL, March Madness is a video game tournament! Beat your opponent in each bracket to take home the grand prize. Please register by March 29; call (269) 685-8024 or send us a message on the library Facebook page.

NOTE: There is no STORY TIME on Monday, April 3rd.

Lego Play

Monday, April 3 · 4-5 p.m.

Build whatever your heart desires with our bricks! Your creation will be on display at the library all week.

Baby Story Time

Tuesday, April 4 · 10:30-11 a.m.

Designed to appeal to infants and toddlers under age 3, this happy gathering allows young children to interact with others while learning songs, rhymes and hearing stories. Older children are welcome.

Get Connected! Circuitry at Work

Tuesday, April 4 · 2-3 p.m.

Can you turn on a light bulb with a pencil? Do you know how to make a clock run with lemons? Join us for an afternoon of wonder, and explore the positives and negatives of circuit science. No registration required. Best suited for children ages 7-11.

Preschoolers Explore: Parachute Edition

Wednesday, April 5 · 10:30-11 a.m.

Today's session will emphasize gross motor play, particularly with the parachute! Play "Popcorn," a game in which balls are popped all over the chute. Lay underneath and feel the breeze as the chute goes up and down. See if you can work together to make a puppet hit the ceiling! Best for children ages 3-7.

Princess Party

Thursday, April 6 · 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Pretty Princess Headquarters invites you to join Cinderella, Belle, Snow White and Elsa for a FREE afternoon tea time! Dress up as a princess and join in the fun by listening to stories, dancing and sipping tea. You may also want to enter a drawing for a surprise princess giveaway! All the Pretty Princesses will gladly stay to take photos and sign autographs with you. Please register for this program, which is best suited to children ages 3-9. Call 685-8024 to get your name on the list!

Fun Film

Friday, April 7

10:30 a.m. This film will be enjoyed most by children ages 3-6.
1 p.m. This film will be enjoyed most by children ages 7-12.
Come to the library for a feature film and some tasty snacks that are completely FREE! Call (269) 685-8024 or stop by the library to find out what's showing.

The Secret Life of Bees Tuesday, June 20th 1:30 p.m.

Beekeeper Don Snoeyink will bring a working beehive to the library encased in plexiglass. Kids will get to see where bees live and learn how a hive works. They will also be able to taste the honey made in Mr. Snoeyink's hives and make a beeswax candle to take home. This program is sponsored by the Friends of Ransom Library.

Bubble Wonders featuring The Bubble Man: Geoff Akins-Hannah

Thursday, June 22 6 p.m.

Early evening performance perfect for families! Bubble Wonders is an exciting, captivating experience for both young and old. Bubble Wonders is full of amazing bubble tricks including the bubble caterpillar, bubble volcano, the dancing bubble, bubbles inside of bubbles, Kid inside a Bubble and more. This program is sponsored by the Friends of Ransom Library.

Nelson's Wildlife Safari Tuesday, June 27 11 a.m.

Legendary among local libraries, Nelson's Wildlife Safari brings amazing animals to you for a fun, interactive experience. And yes, you will be able to pet some of their animals! Join us for a truly wild morning!

Our weekly preschool activities, Lego Play and Discovery Hour will continue, and there will be additional smaller programs going on throughout the summer.



WEEKLY PROGRAMS

PRESCHOOL

Preschool activities take place every weekday at 10:30 a.m. This session runs April 3 through May 26. Programs will be 30-45 minutes in duration.



Monday: Story Time

Kids and caregivers can make new friends, sing fun songs and enjoy great stories.



Tuesday: Baby Story Time

Best for infants and toddlers under the age of two, this program uses stories, music and rhyme to encourage language development.



Wednesday: Preschoolers Explore!

Let your child use their senses to experiment and we'll clean up! We will provide different materials each week for your child to manipulate. Dress for a mess...



Thursday: Story Time

Kids and caregivers can make new friends, sing fun songs and enjoy great stories. This program will conclude with a craft.



Friday: Fun Day!

Different activities will be available each Friday so you and your child can explore something new at the library. Activities will be self-directed. Drop in any time between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

KIDS



Lego Play

Mondays 4-5 p.m. April 3-June 26

NOTE: NO LEGO PLAY ON JUNE 5.

Build whatever your heart desires with our bricks! Your creation will be on display at the library until the following session.



Discovery Hour

Tuesdays 4-5 p.m. April 11-May 23

This STEAM-based program helps kids learn about the wonders of science through interesting experiments. Explore something different every week! Come prepared to get messy.



TEENS

Caffeine Teens

Mondays 3-4 p.m. · April 10-May 22

Hang out with your friends and have some high energy fun after school each week at the library. Recommended for middle school students. New members are always welcome!

Anime Club

Wednesdays 3-4:30 p.m. · April 12-May 31

Hang out for an hour and a half after school to talk about your favorite series! We'll also watch new series, sample Asian snacks, and check out the latest library manga titles. New members are always welcome!



TEEN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Anime Lock-In

Friday, April 14 · 6-11 p.m.

This is a night for the "otaku" to come out and play! Cosplay optional. We will enjoy each others' company through activities, games, button-making, and watching anime—of course! Dinner will be provided. Drinks/snacks will also be available throughout the evening. Please register by April 12--call the library at (269) 685-8024.

Teen Nerf Night

Friday, May 12 · 6-9 p.m.

Have a great time running around the (mostly) dark library trying out your best military tactics. Several different styles of Nerf war will be played. Bring your own weapons (no melee, please.) Darts will be available at the library. Mark any of your equipment and darts with Sharpie to identify them at the end of the evening. No registration necessary. Pizza/drinks will be provided.



Summer 2017 Reading Program



Rejoice! Summer is just around the corner! This year Ransom's summer reading program will be all about building: construction, architecture, and creation. Our aim is to have something going on every day, whether it is story time, a discovery table, an art class or a performance. Mark your calendars: these exciting dates are worth saving!

Summer Reading Begins Friday, June 9 noon-5 p.m.

Start the summer off with a trip to the library! As soon as school ends on June 9th we will register you for the summer reading program. A scratch-off ticket will be awarded each time a child or teen reads 5 books. Each ticket wins a prize! In addition, we are going to attempt a community Lego building project this year. Children will be able to add to our skyscraper city for each book they read. Let's see how many buildings we can build in a single summer!

Palamazoo Puppets and Music Monday, June 12 1 p.m.

We begin our summer lineup with entertainment by local performer Susan Harrison. Susan is known for her upbeat, interactive presentations that include original songs and her Palamazoo puppet characters. The audience is invited to join in the fun!

Look for the full Summer 2017 Reading Program *Build a Better World* schedule in our official summer newsletter available at the library and online starting May 1st.

