

**Michigan Beer: A Heady History** REGISTER

**Saturday, October 8 • 2-3 p.m.**

Michigan has long been called the Great Lakes State but in the past few decades it has also become known as the Great Beer State. Author Patti F. Smith will lead a talk highlighting brewers from the pioneers to the end of the 19th century through Prohibition and post WWII. Along the way, participants will discover and taste different styles of beer. Learn about how early immigrants brought their distinctive beer styles from their home countries, early western Michigan brewers, brewing consolidation after the war, and how COVID-19 altered the landscape.

REGISTER

**Craft & Company: Haunted Mirror**

**Tuesday, October 11, 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

**OR Thursday, October 13 • 7-8 p.m.**

Do you like eerie décor to celebrate Halloween? Make your own haunted mirror to enhance your spooky space.

**Friday Flick: Hocus Pocus**

**Friday, October 14 • 7-9 p.m.**

Amok! Amok! Amok! A curious youngster moves to Salem, where he struggles to fit in before awakening a trio of diabolical witches that were executed in the 17th century. Enjoy watching this original before seeing the new sequel!

**Retirement 101** REGISTER

**Wednesday, October 19 • 6-7 p.m.**

If you are in the early stages of retirement or about to retire, this class will give you financial tools to help you better understand risk, taxes, and estate planning. This class is intended for individuals and couples between the ages of 54-74.

**Rain Gardens & Natives**

**Thursday, October 20 • 6-7 p.m.**

Learn about why rain gardens are important, how to make one and how to maintain an established rain garden from Ruth Caputo, long time gardener and chair of the Kalamazoo Area Wild Ones.

**A Night with the Paranormal**

**Thursday, October 27 • 7-8 p.m.**

Michigan Paranormal Research Organization (MiPRO) seeks to find explanations for unusual occurrences in the southwestern corner of Michigan. Listen to members of the group as they share what they've found on their investigations.

REGISTER

**Recipe Swap**

**Thursday, November 3 • 7-8 p.m.**

Let's dish about recipes! Build a connection through food and share your favorite recipes and cooking tips. Please bring a copy of the recipe you wish to share and include the name of the cookbook or personal notes you have about the recipe.

REGISTER

**Craft & Company: Leaf Candle Holders**

**Tuesday, November 15 • 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

**OR Thursday, November 17 • 7-8 p.m.**

Cozy up and create your own autumn candle holder. All supplies included.

**Psychic Readings with Rick Waid**

**Wednesday, November 16 • 7-8 p.m.**

Take a journey with Rick Wade, seer, remote viewer, and past-life reader, as he connects with "the other side" and shares messages from loved ones beyond the veil. He is the author of the book *My Paranormal Journey: One Man's Obsession* and a member of the Grand Rapids Ghost Hunters.

REGISTER

**Holiday Craft Extravaganza**

**Thursday, December 1 • 6-8 p.m.**

Kick off the gift giving season with our drop-in craft event. Multiple holiday-themed craft stations will be available to make your art independently and at your own pace.

**BINGO** REGISTER

**Thursday, December 8 • 2-3 p.m.**

Bring your luck to the library for an afternoon of BINGO. You will have the chance to win all sorts of prizes while having fun along the way.

REGISTER

**Festive Family Film Feud**

**December 15 • 7-8 p.m.**

Test your holiday movie knowledge and your powers of observation to win prizes. Register with teams of at least 3. Popcorn and beverages will be provided.

All ages welcome.

## Ongoing Programs

**Sew What? Stitching Group**

**Wednesdays, 10/12, 10/26, 11/2, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7, 12/21 1-3 p.m.**

Looking for a place to work on your stitches? Knit, crochet, needlepoint, or sew--whatever your stitch, you're welcome to come and work on your project with other crafters in this bi-monthly program. Please bring your own project.

**The Corner Piece Puzzle Hour**

**Tuesdays, 10/4, 11/1, 12/6 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

Boost your brain with one of the many jigsaw puzzles we have to offer. Work with others or by yourself.

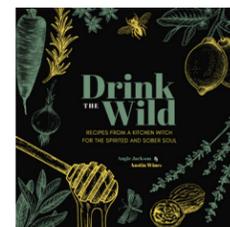
**Card Sharks**

**Tuesdays, 10/25, 11/29, 12/13 1-3 p.m.**

Join us for an afternoon of playing cards. We'll have multiple decks of cards available to play a card game of your choosing. Each month we will instruct you on how to play a new game but if you already know it or would like to play something else, feel free!

*If you or someone you know wants to take your gaming to the next level, be sure to visit one of Plainwell's elite gaming establishments: Around the Board and Fortress of Solitude.*

# Ransom District Library NEWS

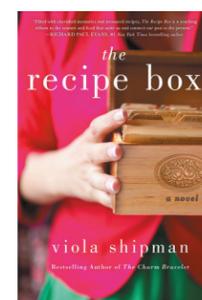


**Drink the Wild: Recipes from a Kitchen Witch for the Spirited and Sober Soul**

**Thursday, October 6 • 7-8 p.m.**

We can drink things that are delicious, good for us, and good for the wild world we live in with the

right proportions of culinary mixology, herbalist tradition, and our inner kitchen witches. Join Angie Jackson as she discusses recipes, history and folklore, and home alchemy tips and tricks to build and sharpen your home apothecary and mixing skills.



**Wit & Words with Wade (AKA Viola Shipman)**

**Thursday, November 10 • 7-8 p.m.**

Join us for a lively and literary hour with the bestselling author of *The Recipe Box*, Wade Rouse. Rouse chose his grandmother's name as a pseudonym to pay tribute to the woman whose heirlooms, life, lessons and love inspire his fiction. His works include *The Clover Girls*, *A Wish for Winter*, and his newest release, *The Edge of Summer*.

## Director's Note

Now that we have wrapped up another great Summer Reading Program, we would like to highlight the ongoing value of the public library to schoolchildren and their families. For over thirty years, American libraries have celebrated Library card Sign-up Month in September as a reminder of that value. Your library offers many types of support for students of all kinds—educational and social programs, powered digital workstations, learning materials, trusted librarians to help with research, and more. And, of course, with our focus on life-long learning, the Library offers opportunities to students of all ages. Whether you're a home-school family, or attend our fine Community Schools, or simply wish to learn something new, please stop by Ransom District Library for a free library card. That card can be the key that unlocks the world!

See you at the Library,

Joe

**October Book of the Month: *The House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende**

One of the most important novels of the twentieth century, *The House of the Spirits* is an enthralling epic that spans decades and lives, weaving the personal and the political into a universal story of love, magic, and fate. Multiple copies of the book will be available at the desk one month before the book club events.

**Brunch Hour Book Club**

**Tuesday, October 18 • 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

Donuts and coffee are a great addition to any group. Enjoy these light refreshments while you chat about the Book of the Month.

**With a Twist Book Club**

**Thursday, October 20 • 7-8 p.m.**

Are you interested in books with a hint of smoky flavor? Maybe a read with that leaves a bittersweet taste in your mouth? This book group pairs the Book of the Month with an adult beverage recipe picked specifically to match.

**November Book of the Month: *The Recipe Box* by Viola Shipman**

In *The Recipe Box*, bestselling author Viola Shipman spins a tale about a lost young woman and the family recipe box that changes her life. Growing up in northern Michigan, Samantha "Sam" Mullins felt trapped in her family's orchard and pie shop, so she left with dreams of making her own mark in the world. Multiple copies of the book will be available at the desk one month before the book club events.

**Brunch Hour Book Club**

**Tuesday, November 8 • 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

Enjoy discussing the Book of the Month while enjoying light snacks and coffee.

# Fall Fun at RDL!

This was another terrific summer, with over **700** kids and teens participating in the reading program. Thank you for your support! Thank you also to the volunteers whose support made summer fun happen: Allene Boughton, Virginia Paginelli Caruso, Joey Gorton, Cathy Green, Xander Miller, Sue Ellen Nelson, Clairra Pearson, Lily Redmond, Cheryl Rutter, Kay Strong, and Kelli Stuijbergen. A big thank you to our sponsors Pizza Hut and Plainwell Ice Cream as well, for providing delicious incentives to Plainwell readers. And the library is a much more interesting place thanks to the firm support of the Friends of Ransom Library, who provided funding for numerous performers.



## Text And Learn Kindergarten (TALK)

TALK is a service we offer to help prepare your little one for success in school. You will receive 1-2 texts per week with activity suggestions and library events. To get started, text TALK to 75547. Curious what these texts look like? Ask Erin at the library—she gets them too!

## Halloween Costumes Available!

Gently used costumes are available for you to select for your child during the month of October, while supplies last. There is no charge, but monetary donations for the costumes are greatly appreciated. This great idea was conceived by and benefits the Friends of Ransom Library.

## Weekly activities

### Teen Tuesdays: After School Fun • Tuesdays 3-4 p.m.

Teens can hang out together, snack, and do different things including games, videos and making things. Meet in the Hill Performance Room.

### Kids' After School Special • Wednesdays 4-5 p.m.

*(Sessions will not be held on Nov. 23 or Dec. 21.)*

Kids can join Ms. Erin after school for fun of a different kind each week!

- 1st Wednesday of the month: art
- 2nd Wednesday: games
- 3rd Wednesday: science
- 4th Wednesday: Build-o-Rama (Legos)
- 5th Wednesday: Ms. Erin's surprise

### Story Time • Wednesdays 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Enjoy three stories, fun movement activities, and songs with shaker accompaniment. There will be a craft afterward.

### Thursdays are fun-filled days for preschoolers!

Something different is available every week at 10:30 a.m. beginning October 20.

**1st Thursday of the month: Grandparents Read!** Pair up with a senior citizen to hear stories, make sticker pictures, and more.

#### 2nd Thursday: Preschoolers Explore!

Youngsters can participate in activity centers that emphasize motor skills, science, and vocabulary building.

#### 3rd Thursday: Learn and Grow Play Group

with Miss Kelli, Plainwell Schools' Literacy Coach—Miss Kelli will emphasize early literacy skill development through play-based learning centers. It's a fun time for parents to connect, too! Every family who attends will receive a free book, and there are always snacks and fun activities for the kids. No Play Group in December.

**4th Thursday: Toddler Zip and Zoom**—a gym-style activity hour to help your toddler burn off some energy before naptime.

**5th Thursday: Process Art**—messy experiences with paint, clay and more. No rules, just fun!

## Special programs

### Teen Ramen and Anime Night: Grades 6-6

Friday, October 21 • 6-9 p.m. [REGISTER](#)

Spend an evening immersing yourself in Japanese fandom! Enjoy a ramen bar, a movie, learn how to make an origami crane, and more.

### Preschool Halloween Parade

Friday, October 28 • 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Our littlest friends don't always last through Halloween night, so instead, why not trick or treat at the library? We will parade through the building, stopping off in several places for treats, and we will end up in the Hill Performance Room for stories, crafts and games.

### Kids' Mario Kart Tournament: Grades 3-6

Friday, November 18 • 1-4 p.m. [REGISTER](#)

Play against your friends and see who is crowned champion! Games will be played on the Nintendo Switch. It is okay for kids to bring their own controllers. Trophies will be awarded to the top 3 contestants.

### Make a Countdown Calendar: Grades 1-up

Friday, November 25 • 1-3 p.m. [REGISTER](#)

Make a special calendar with hidden surprises for every day in December leading up to the beginning of the holiday break.

### Stories and Santa!

Saturday, December 10 • 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Get into the Christmas spirit with a visit to Santa Claus, some holiday stories and crafts. Drop in anytime between 10:30 and 1:30.

### Build-o-Rama: Bridges and Zip Lines

Wednesday, December 28 • 1-3 p.m.

Make a bridge and test its strength, then try a pulley-based zip line for a new building challenge! Drop in anytime between 1 and 3 p.m.

### Kids' Minute to Win It: Grades 2-6

Thursday, December 29 • 1-3 p.m. [REGISTER](#)

Play Face the Cookie, Find the Sticker and more as you race the clock to complete challenges as quickly as possible.

### Teen Smash Brothers Tournament: Grades 6-up

Tuesday, January 3 • 1-4 p.m. [REGISTER](#)

Play against your friends and see who is crowned champion! Games will be played on the Nintendo Switch. It is okay for participants to bring their own controllers. Trophies will be awarded to the top 3 contestants.

### Kids/Teens Bad Art Contest: Grades 4-up

Wednesday, January 4 • 1-3 p.m. [REGISTER](#)

Use our supplies to make the most awful art you can imagine, then enjoy the "criticism" of the judges. No talent is necessary—in fact, no talent is encouraged!

### Seasonal Snow Globes

Thursday, January 5 • 1-3 p.m. [REGISTER](#)

Make your own special snowy delight. Hopefully the weather will cooperate to help set the mood!

### Teen Game Night: Grades 6-up

Friday, January 6 • 6-8 p.m.

[REGISTER](#)

Run around after hours and make some noise as we play games like Capture the Flag, Numbered Chairs and the ever-popular Murder in the Library.