

Recipe Swap REGISTER

Wednesday, January 4 • 7-8 p.m.

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.

Euchre Tournament REGISTER

Thursday, January 5 • 6-8 p.m.

Do you have what it takes to be crowned the Euchre champion? Try your hand at this game and you could win a prize. No partners are required as you will rotate tables and partners each game.

Adult Craft & Company: REGISTER

Arm Knitting Infinity Scarves

Tuesday, January 10 • 10:30-11:30 a.m.

OR Thursday, January 12 • 7-8 p.m.

Learn how to use your arms instead of needles to knit yourself an infinity scarf.

Adult Cookie Decorating REGISTER

Thursday, January 26 • 7-8:30p.m.

Design a winter and Valentine's Day themed cookie with Brandie Williams, local baker and owner of the Sugar Palace. All supplies included.

Adult Craft & Company: REGISTER

Heart String Art

Tuesday, February 7 • 10:30-11:30a.m.

OR Thursday, February 9 • 7-8 p.m.

String a craft together with this easy string art pattern just in time for Valentine's Day. All supplies included.

Law of Attraction with Karen Shier

Wednesday, February 15 • 7-8pm.

The law of attraction states that whatever you focus your energy on will come back to you. Learn the secrets to positive energy with Karen Shier, Midlife Transformation Guide, Desire Factor & Law of Attraction Life Coach, Energy Master & Author.

Escape Room ALL AGES REGISTER

February 17, 18, 20 by appointment

While everyone prepared for the Mardi Gras carnival, the magician's rabbit pulled its own disappearing act! Help the magician find the rabbit before the show begins.

Puzzle Tournament REGISTER

Thursday February 23, 7-8 p.m.

The fastest team to complete the 500 piece puzzle will win a prize. Register each person in your team, up to four. Other participants may be added to your team as space allows.

Open Mic Night REGISTER

Thursday March 2 • 6-8p.m.

Calling all talents to the stage! Read a poem, sing, dance, play an instrument, do stand-up, etc. Light refreshments will be provided. Ages 16+

Adult Craft & Company: REGISTER

Fabric Scrap Wreath

Tuesday, March 7 • 10:30-11:30 a.m.

OR Thursday, March 9 • 7-8 p.m.

Upcycle old fabric scraps to create a colorful spring wreath. Supplies included.

Fueling with Food

Wednesday, March 15 • 7-8 pm

March is National Nutrition Month. Susan Katz-Scheinker of Cambium Nutrition will share tips on having a healthy, connected relationship with food.

Captain Francis O'Neill: Irishman, Police Chief, Music Man & Book Lover

Thursday, March 16, 7-8 p.m.

Francis O'Neill is known throughout the world of traditional Irish music as the man who collected and published thousands of Irish dance tunes, and whose books are used and appreciated by musicians to this day. Listen to a presentation with illustrations and music from Irish Studies Librarian Aedin Clements, who works with the O'Neill Collection at the University of Notre Dame.

Ongoing Programs

Sew What? Stitching Group

Wednesdays • 1-3pm

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.

Chair Yoga REGISTER

Fridays • 1/6, 2/3, 3/3 • 11am

A simple one-hour practice that people with limited mobility can learn easy gentle movements to keep the blood circulating, and deep breathing & meditation techniques to keep the mind calm and focused. This class is led by Abbie Hanson of River Bend Yoga.

Brunch Hour Book Club

Tuesday • 1/17, 2/14, 3/21 • 10:30am

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

With a Twist Book Club

Thursday • 1/19, 2/16, 3/23 • 7pm

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

BOOK GROUP PICKS

January: *Rules of Civility* by Amos

February: *The Heart of the Deal* by Lindsay MacMillan

March: *The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper* by Phaedra Patrick
(Multiple copies of the books are available)

Basics Computer Class REGISTER

Tuesday • 1/24, 2/21, 3/14 • 10:30am

This class is designed for those who are new to computers or who feel like they need more instruction. You will learn the basics of how to use a computer in a judgment free zone.

Card Sharks

Tuesday • 1/31 2/28 3/28 • 1-3pm

Join us for an afternoon of playing cards. Multiple decks are available. 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!

Ransom District Library NEWS

Adult Winter Reading BINGO

January 6 through February 26

Use these blustery blizzard months to read something out of your comfort zone. Read through the squares until you get a BINGO by Feb 26. Once you do, you'll get an official RDL Blizzard Book BINGO Mug! Complete the entire board and you'll be entered into a drawing for the GRAND PRIZE!

Letting Go with Yoga

 REGISTER

Monday, January 9 • 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Immerse yourself in the healing sounds of a 38" Earth gong tuned to the frequency of the earth and the human body. Join Kevin Leep for stress-relieving yoga with gong sound healing. Sound immersion is designed to cleanse the energetic system through sound vibration and provide an enhanced state of relaxation and visualization.

True Crime in Michigan with Tobin Buhke: Lonely Hearts Killers

Thursday, February 2 • 7 to 8 p.m.

Hear about the Michigan crimes of the "Lonely Hearts Killers," as well as other "Cupid Club" killers who, throughout the years, preyed on Michigan lonely hearts through personal advertisements.

Director's Note

We're excited to ring in the New Year at the Library, a year that feels full of promise and all the activities we love. There are new arrivals on the shelves (of course!), developments in the Media Lab with 3-D scanning, and a return to one of our passions: music. The experience of listening to music is unique in that it fires both hemispheres of the brain. We come hardwired to appreciate music. For these reasons and many others, it is with joy that we return to guitar/music literacy lessons and hosting concerts (February and March!). These activities, paired with musical storytimes and periodic open mic events for the community, are intended to layer music appreciation and ability with lifelong learning at the Library. Come listen and play with us!

— Joe



RDL Winter Concert Series Sundays @ 2 p.m.

Wallace, Beebe, Moehle, and Orr Sunday, February 19 • 2 p.m.

Bob Wallace, director of Kalamazoo's Academy of Rock, leads a local all-star collective that specializes in rootsy Americana rock cover songs. Enjoy expert renditions of Elton John, Tom Petty, and many others to kick off music in the Hill Performance Room. Light refreshments served.

Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra Burdick-Thorne String Quartet Sunday, February 26 • 2 p.m.

The Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra Burdick-Thorne String Quartet returns for a performance of popular Broadway and Pops music. As always, we're more than proud to host this world-class ensemble from just up the road.

The ACE's Trio Sunday, March 5 • 2 p.m.

Guitar virtuoso Elden Kelly is joined by harmonica master, Andy Wilson, and world percussionist, Carolyn Koebel for a jazz and world music odyssey. You won't want to miss this unique collaboration of instrumental talents.

REGISTER

Guitar Club—Introduction to Guitar Playing for All Ages

January 16-March 20 • Mondays 4-4:45 p.m.

During this ten-week session, participants will be introduced to basic guitar technique and the reading of musical notation. If possible, it is best for participants to arrive a little early for tuning and prep.

It's Going to be a WARM WINTER at RDL!



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 containing activity suggestions and library events. To get started, text TALK to 75547.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

RDL still offers this program! Reading 1000 books to your child before they start school is profoundly helpful to their readiness to learn to read. You can read the same books more than once, too! Just sign up at the library and pick up a checklist. When you have read 100 books, bring it back for a small prize. After 1000 books, we will give your child a book and a book bag!

Story Time Wednesdays

10:30 - 11:15 a.m.

Children can explore stories and songs that encourage them to develop a lifelong love of reading and learning. They will practice language and listening skills, expand their imaginations and arouse their curiosity about the world around them. A craft will be available at the end of the session. Meet Ms. Erin in the Hill Performance Room.

Kids' After School Special Wednesdays 4 - 5 p.m. (Sessions will not be held on March 29 or April 5.)

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

Preschool Thursdays

Every week at 10:30 a.m.

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. Ms. 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.

4th Thursday: Toddler Zip and Zoom—

a gym-style activity hour to help your toddler burn off some energy before naptime.

WANTED: Dragon Masters

Ms. Erin is looking for a few good teens to help socialize and care for Dolores, the library's bearded dragon. This is a good opportunity for teens who have encountered beardies at school (several teachers have them as classroom pets) and want to spend more time caring for a lizard. Contact the library for the link to apply.

Special Events

REGISTER

Teen Smash Bros Tournament

Tuesday, January 3 • 1-4 p.m.

Grades 6-up

Play against your friends and see who is crowned champion! Games are played on Nintendo Switch. Bring own controller if you wish. Trophies awarded to top 3!

REGISTER

Kids/Teens Bad Art Contest

Wednesday, January 4 • 1-3 p.m.

Grades 4-up

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!

REGISTER

Seasonal Snow Globes

Thursday, January 5 • 1-3 p.m.

For kids of all ages. Make your own special winter wonderland. Hopefully the weather will cooperate to help set the mood!

REGISTER

Teen Game Night

Friday, January 6 • 6-8 p.m.

Grades 6-up

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

REGISTER

Kids' Mario Kart Tournament

Monday, January 16 • 1-4 p.m.

No school in Plainwell this day

Grades 3-6

Play against your friends and see who is crowned champion! Games are played on Nintendo Switch. Bring your own controller if you wish. Trophies awarded to top 3!

Snowman Hunt

February 3-5 • Outdoors, anytime

Ten snowmen are hiding on the library grounds. Grab a checklist in the building, or find it on the library calendar, and track them all down! You can also choose to find our snowman geocache and make your own snowman.

A box is hidden somewhere on the library property that contains everything you need to decorate a snowman. Find the cache, choose your supplies and build a snowman to greet library visitors! These activities will be available Friday morning (no school on 2/3) through Sunday evening for your family to enjoy at your convenience. Don't forget to bring flashlights if you decide to hunt in the dark!

REGISTER

Escape Room by appt. only

February 17 - 20

Help find the magician's missing rabbit! Families are encouraged to participate in the escape room. Contact the library to register.

RDL's Annual Dr. Seuss Night

Tuesday, March 7 • 7 - 8 p.m.

Sponsored by the Friends of Ransom Library. Have you been to Dr. Seuss Night? If you never have, you should. This night is fun. And fun is good! Have fun with us as we celebrate all things Seuss: participants will get to enjoy activities inspired by the author's books, see characters in costume, hear Mr. Joe and his guitar, and take home a delicious treat at the end. Take part in this Plainwell tradition with your children!

Spring Break Fun

Dog Man Bingo REGISTER

Thursday, March 30 • 1-2 p.m.

This program is for elementary school-age students only. Play Bingo for a chance to win a copy of the newest Dog Man book, published on March 28th! 3 copies will be given away, plus other books as well. Everyone will win something!

Nailed It! REGISTER

Friday, March 31 • 2-4 p.m.

This program is for students in middle school and high school only. Can you decorate a cupcake that measures up to the professionals? Brandie Williams, owner of The Sugar Palace, will present us with a beautifully decorated cupcake. You will then have a shot at duplicating her design. (Supplies will be provided for you.) You can eat the cupcake when the contest is over.

Monster of the Week REGISTER

Two sessions: Tuesday, April 4 and Thursday, April 6 • 4-6 p.m.

This program is for students in middle school and high school only. Monster of the Week is a stand-alone role-playing game for 3-5 teens. Investigate and hunt down monsters to protect yourself and your loved ones. Great for fans of tabletop role-playing games.

Gyotaku: Fish Painting

Wednesday, April 5

This is a drop-in program; stop by any time between 1 and 3 p.m. to try it out. Gyotaku is the traditional Japanese method of printing fish. This form of nature printing was used by fishermen to record their catches, but has also become an art form of its own. Bring your own t-shirt (white is best) and make an original piece of wearable art!

Springtime Art

Thursday, April 6 • 10:30 a.m. - noon

Make some cheerful art to welcome in the season! This will be a drop-in style program, and several projects will be available so that everyone ages 2-10 will have something they can create.

Weekly Activities

REGISTER

Guitar Club—Introduction to Guitar Playing for All Ages

January 16 through March 20
Mondays 4-4:45 p.m.

During this ten-week session, participants will be introduced to basic guitar technique and the reading of musical notation. If possible, it is best for participants to arrive a little early for tuning and prep.

Teen Tuesdays: After School Fun

Tuesdays 3 - 4 p.m.

Teens can hang out together, snack, and enjoy different activities including games, videos, and making things. Meet in the Hill Performance Room. No Teen Tuesday on March 7.

