The world’s largest American flag, a nine story tree of lights, and the home of the real Santa are just a fraction of Hudson’s memories that Author Michael Hauser will discuss.

Attendees will be treated to signage, hundreds of photos, video clips, and various ephemera of Detroit’s home-grown retailer that once towered over Woodward Avenue.

Remembering J.L Hudson Company:
Detroit’s Legendary Department Store

Thursday, December 7, 7-8:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

Cookies & Cocoa
Tuesday, December 5
6:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

Need ideas for edible gifts this holiday season? First, select a cookie recipe from one of the library’s cookbooks to bake ahead of time and share at the event. Then, we’ll show you how to make your own hot cocoa mix for an extra special holiday treat. You’ll walk away with a ton of recipes and some tasty treats! See our online events calendar for more details.
Loud AT THE LIBRARY

Sundays, 2-3:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room. Registration Required.

America’s Premier 19th Century Brass Band presents performances in the context of the social and political issues of the time. The DSB will perform traditional holiday songs from the era.

From all-star jam sessions to smoky after-hours clubs, this group rarely misses the opportunity to lay down a groove. In high demand on the jazz scene, their creativity seems almost endless.

Developed from disaster, The Blueflowers embrace chaos and create the new caustic cool. This Detroit six-piece band released their fourth full length album, *At The Edge Of Disaster*, October 24, 2014.

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Cyber Security

Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

Thursday, December 14, 7-8:30 p.m.

In light of the recent Equifax hack, it’s hard to know how safe our personal data really is and who can be trusted with it. Learn about how our data is collected and used, issues concerning privacy, and how to keep yourself safe this holiday shopping season with Walsh College Cyber Security Professor, Dave Sintek.

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Names Unspoken

Unsung Heroes of the Civil Rights Movement

Tuesday, February 6, 7-8:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

Presenter Jamon Jordan is President of the Detroit Branch of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. ASALH Detroit is responsible for Black History Month activities in the Metropolitan Detroit area.
When Hollywood Went to War
Tuesday, February 20, 7-8:30 p.m.

Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

When Hollywood Went to War is the real life story of nearly 90 celebrities who served in the United States Military during World War II. Presenters Al and Dave Eicher collected hundreds of photographs, films, and several interviews of men and women from the entertainment world. These 1940’s celebrities, young and old, took time out of their successful careers to protect and preserve our country.

Oleda Joure Christides was a Michigan teenager, a weekend musician, and a telephone supervisor who earned veteran’s status after enduring a 60-year battle. Storyteller Lois Sprengnether Keel will present Oleda’s story in full costume.

TEDxRochesterHillsPublicLibrary
Saturday, January 13, 2-4 p.m.

Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

View TED Talks on our theme “Technology and You.” Topics will include new technology, how we relate to technology, using technology, and more. Refreshments provided. Limited seating is available. (Some videos may contain profanity and mature content.)

Immigration Law
Monday, February 12, 7-8:30 p.m.

Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

Get the latest on where American immigration law stands. Wayne State University Law Professor Jonathan Weinberg will discuss DACA, skilled labor requirements, immigration stats and compare American law with Canada and other industrialized countries. Weinberg will also answer questions on immigration law and specific questions pertaining to citizenship.

Weinberg was a law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and then-Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg. He holds a J.D. from Columbia Law School and an A.B. from Harvard University.
Pirates, Crooks and Killers: The Dark Side of Sailing the Great Lakes

Thursday, January 11, 7-8:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

While the Great Lakes never had swashbuckling pirates like those that swept the Caribbean Seas, there were lowlifes willing to rob and pillage when the opportunity presented itself. Presenter Frederick Stonehouse has authored over thirty books on maritime history, many of them focusing on the Great Lakes, and contributed to several others. His presentation focuses on a fascinating aspect of Great Lakes maritime history that’s rarely explored.

The Burned-Over District: Revival, Reform and the Migration to Michigan

Tuesday, February 13, 7-8:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

Most people with an interest in local history are aware that settlers to Michigan during the territorial and early statehood period (1820-1850) came primarily from western New York. Historian Jim Craft says, “what few realize is that, during this period, western New York (aka the Burned-Over District) was the epicenter of both the religious revival known as the Second Great Awakening, and social and political reform that significantly impacted the course of American history throughout the 19th and well into the 20th Century.” Craft has an extensive background as a historian. He has two degrees in history (BA - Oakland University; MA - Wayne State University), taught history for 13 years, and served on the Oakland County Historical Commission for the past 12 years.

FREE MAGAZINES AVAILABLE!

December 16, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Multipurpose Room

The library is offering its 2016 magazines to the public. Magazines are first come, first served and there is no limit on the number each person may take. This is the ONLY day and time the magazines will be offered - anything unclaimed after this time will be recycled! Please call 248-650-7130 with any questions.
Exploring Antarctica

Thursday, January 25, 7-8:30 p.m.

Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

Eric Thuma, a physics teacher at Stoney Creek High School in Rochester Hills, joined a University of Wisconsin professor in Antarctica for three weeks to do equipment upgrades last January on the COSRAY Neutron Detectors at McMurdo Station, Antarctica. The neutron monitors are designed to study cosmic radiation and solar activity. Thuma will share details of what he did in Antarctica and photos from the experience.

New MYLE Kits

Look for two new Make Your Life Easier Kits! Both kits will focus on Dementia/Alzheimer’s. One of the kits will be for groups and include various games such as musical bingo, a beanbag toss, books, and activity guides for caregivers.

The other kit is for smaller groups or individuals and will include matching games, books, and activities to exercise one’s brain.

All MYLE Kits are in the Outreach Department. Other kits we have focus on arthritis, Parkinson’s, Braille, autism/sensory, and more.

Bright Lights:
Understanding Seasonal Affective Disorder

Saturday, January 20 1–2 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Registration Required

Join us as we welcome Dr. Adam Hull, DO, MPH, from Ascension Crittenton Hospital as he discusses Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). SAD is a mood disorder subset in which people who have normal mental health throughout most of the year exhibit depressive symptoms at the same time each year, most commonly in the winter. Learn about the symptoms and treatments for this disorder that affects 4 to 6 percent of the population, and brighten up those dark winter nights.

Registration is required for all RHPL programs. Register at calendar.rhpl.org or 248-656-2900
NEWS & VIEWS PAGE 6

Adul ts
Just want to have fun!

Nerf at Nite  Friday, January 5, 7-9 p.m.
What’s more fun than a Nerf battle? A Nerf battle in the library after hours! We are taking over the library for an epic Nerf war after the library closes. We’ll play Capture the Flag and some other fast paced games. All supplies provided - wear comfy clothes that you can MOVE in! Registration with an RHPL library card is required. Each library card will admit up to two people. This event is limited to ages 18 and up.

Know-It-All Trivia Smackdown
Mondays, December 18, January 22 & February 19, 7-9 p.m.
Think you know more random trivia than your neighbors? Meet us at Bar Louie (near the fireplace) with your team of up to six people and see if you have what it takes to be crowned champions! Bonus points if you bring your library card! A prize will be awarded to the top team.

Get Your Game On  Saturday, January 27, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
We’ve got drop-in board games, card games, retro video games, and more for all ages in the Multipurpose Room.

ADULTING
At Your Library
Whether you’re a newly-minted or seasoned adult, join us Saturdays from 1-3 p.m. to learn a variety of useful skills that will make “adulting” easier and fun. Registration is required.

DIY Giftwrap
December 9
Multipurpose Room
 Impress your loved ones with unique gift-wrapping hacks for holidays, birthdays, and every-day gift-giving! No need to have finished your shopping- we’ll have supplies and ideas for you to take home.

Bullet Journaling
January 6
Second Floor Conference Room
Get organized for 2018 using this hybrid journal/planner method! We’ll teach you what this method is about and have some time to share customization tips. Optional: bring a blank notebook or journal with you if you’d like to get started right away.

Meal Prep Basics with Trader Joe’s
February 3
Multipurpose Room
Feeding yourself doesn’t have to be hard! Trader Joe’s will be on hand to show you some tips and tricks for preparing healthy and delicious meals.
Introducing Blu-Ray Movies

You’ve been asking for it, and we are happy to announce that we will begin offering select new feature films in Blu-Ray format. We will continue to offer plenty of copies of movies in DVD format. We hope you will enjoy this new movie watching option!

Cord Cutting: 101
Exploring Cable Alternatives

Monday, January 8, 6–7:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room

Want to “cut the cord” and find a different method to enjoy TV without cable? Explore cost-effective alternatives to cable (Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Video, Hoopla) and the devices you’ll need to view them (Roku, Chromecast, Apple TV, Amazon Fire).

Between the Lines Book Discussion Group

January 18 & February 15, 2–3:30 p.m.
Second Floor Conference Room

Join us for thoughtful book discussions on *The Underground Girls of Kabul* and *Brain on Fire*, led by library staff. Copies of the book are available upon registration. For questions, contact Annette at 248-650-7134 or Annette.Similuk@rhpl.org.

Design Your Own T-Shirt

Saturday, December 16, 2–4 p.m.
Makerspace
Registration Required

Have you seen our new makerspace? We now have a dedicated room just for crafting! Come check it out at our first program and get experience on our cameo cutting machine. Bring a plain T-shirt, and learn how to make a heat transfer design!

Pie & Pages Book Discussion

Wednesday, Jan. 17 & Feb. 14, 10 a.m.

Join us for a sweet & satisfying RHPL book discussion at Grand Traverse Pie Company: 6920 N. Rochester Rd, Rochester Hills MI
Copies of the book are available upon registration.

Registration is required for all RHPL programs at calendar.rhpl.org or 248-656-2900
Registration for each program begins one week prior to the program.

**Story Groups**

REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Winter Story Groups begin on Monday, January 15. Registration begins on Monday, January 8 at 9 a.m. This session will last for five weeks. There are many different groups offered during this session. Detailed information on each group can be found at rhpl.org. Please make note of the following guidelines before registering:
- Each child can only register for one group.
- Children must be registered for a Story Group with their own card. Library cards are issued to residents of Rochester, Rochester Hills, and Oakland Township at any age at the Information Desk.

**Fantastic Fridays**

Fridays, Jan. 19 & Feb. 16, 10-10:45 a.m.
Ages 5 & under with a caregiver
Multipurpose Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN AND ADULTS ATTENDING
Jan 19: Celebrate your favorite Polynesian characters with a dance party & leis.
Feb. 16: Concert with Kevin Devine, lots of dancing and singing along.

**Paws for Reading**

Wednesdays, 6-7:15 p.m.
Youth Room
Practice your reading with trained therapy dog, Abbey, and her trainer, Amanda! Call 248-650-7140 to schedule your 15-minute appointment.

**Get Mobbed With Minecraft**

Thursday, Dec. 7, Jan. 11, & Feb. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Grades 4 and up
Makerspace
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Come punch a few trees and build your own world. Open to beginners and experienced Minecrafters.

**Collage Cards**

Saturday, December 16, 2-3:30 p.m.
Ages 5-12
Story Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Create a personalized card for someone you care about using pictures and letters you cut out from magazines.
Early Childhood Caregiver Training

Wednesdays, Jan. 17 & Feb. 21, 6-8 p.m.
Adults only
Multipurpose Room
REGISTER ALL ADULTS ATTENDING
Join Sherri Moore of Oakland Family Services for monthly training sessions on early childhood development. All attendees will receive certificates of participation. Hours can be counted towards yearly training requirements. To register, visit greatstarttoquality.org and click on “Information for Providers & Educators.”

Holiday Storytime

Tuesday, December 19, 7-7:45 p.m., Ages 1 & up with a caregiver, Story Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN & ADULTS ATTENDING
Celebrate December holidays with stories and music.

Family Game Afternoon

Thursday, December 21, 1-3 p.m., All ages
Multipurpose Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN AND ADULTS ATTENDING
Drop in during this multi-age, family program, where we will provide board games for you to play. Classics such as Yahtzee, Monopoly, and Clue will be available, as well as games for adults.

Video Game Free Play

Friday, December 29, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., All Ages
Multipurpose Room
No Registration Required
PARENTS MUST ATTEND WITH CHILD
Enjoy E-rated video games with the family!

Lego Time!

Thursday, Dec. 28, 3-4 p.m. & Tuesday, Feb. 20, 3-4 p.m.
Gr K-8 with a caregiver
Multipurpose Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Build with the library Legos, then display your creation in the Youth Room.

Upside Down and Backwards Art

Tuesday, January 2, 2-3 p.m.
Grades 2 and Older
Story Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Be sure to dress for the mess as we change the way you think about creating a masterpiece! Challenge yourself by painting a picture with your feet, drawing reaching up to the ceiling, and using other surprise artistic methods.

Sensory Snow Storytime

Friday, January 12, 1-2 p.m.
Ages 3-5 with Caregiver
Story Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Join us for a snow-themed story time and then enjoy free play with sensory “snow”! We are playing with synthetic snow, so we may get messy or damp!

Video Game Free Play

Friday, December 29, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., All Ages
Multipurpose Room
No Registration Required
PARENTS MUST ATTEND WITH CHILD
Enjoy E-rated video games with the family!

National Day of Service

Monday, January 15, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
All ages
Youth Room
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Join us in honoring Dr. Martin Luther King’s legacy by providing service to our community. Create artwork to hang in our assisted living mini-branches.
Parent Child Workshop

Mondays Feb. 26, March 5, 12, 19 & 26, 10-11:15 a.m., Multipurpose Room
1-3 year olds (with parent/caregiver)
REGISTER ALL 1-3 YEAR OLDS ATTENDING
Join us for a fun, play-based five-week program where families can relax, make friends, and talk one-on-one with specialists on child development. This program will be open to 1-3 year olds and their caregiver and is limited to one session per year per child. Siblings, ages birth-1 year and 4-5 years, are welcome to attend, but do not need to be registered for the program. Siblings above 5 years old cannot attend. Registration begins on Monday, February 12, at 9 a.m.

Martin Luther King Jr.
Storytime and Craft

Monday, January 15, 2-3 p.m.
Grades 1-5
Story Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Please join us as we honor the life and work of Civil Rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on the day of his birth. Learn about Dr. King through stories and his most famous public speech, “I Have a Dream.” Children will decorate a paper dove which will be displayed at the library.

Baby Wearing Dance Party

Saturday, January 20, 11-11:30 a.m.
Ages Birth to Walking with Caregiver
Multipurpose Room
REGISTER ALL BABIES ATTENDING FOR AGES BIRTH TO WALKING
Are you looking for a fun way to get some exercise that both you and your baby will love? Bring your baby to the library in a secure baby carrier for this baby-wearing dance party! You will learn a few simple dance routines and do some fun, silly freestyle dancing with your baby.

3D Printed Pinewood Derby

Thursday, Jan. 24, Feb. 28, & March 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Grades 4 and up
Makerspace
REGISTER AT LEAST ONE TEAM MEMBER ATTENDING
Design your own 3D printed derby car and let it loose! In this three-session program participants will design, craft, and ultimately race their 3D printed derby cars. Teams of up to four are welcome. Designs due by February 12.

Paper Mosaic Art

Grade & Middle School
Saturday, February 3, 1-3 p.m., Story Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
A ‘Mosaic’ is about what we see and what we don’t see. Using discarded books, magazines, and newspapers, we’ll create art. Inspiration will be provided as well as a simple tutorial. Caregivers are welcome to stay and make their own piece!
**Munching Munchers**

Tuesday, February 6, 4-5 p.m.
Grades 1-5, Story Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Stop coming home from school to boring foods you can’t play with and start making your own fun and healthy after school snacks! This program will teach kids how to have fun making simple snacks for themselves that are also healthy.

**Ooey, Gooey Slime**

Monday, February 12, 6-7 p.m.
Ages 12 & under
Story Room
REGISTER ALL ATTENDEES.
CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 10 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CAREGIVER
Who doesn’t love slime?! If you would like to make your very own ooey, gooey slime, come and learn how with simple household ingredients. All materials supplied.

**With Love, From Me, To You**

Wednesday, February 7, 6-7 p.m., All Ages
Story Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Celebrate Random Acts of Kindness Week by making valentines to place throughout the library. You may just make someone’s day!

**Animal Masks**

Saturday, February 24, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Grades K-2 with caregiver
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Celebrate Random Acts of Kindness Week by making valentines to place throughout the library. You may just make someone’s day!

**Free Play Saturday!**

Saturdays, Dec. 9, Jan. 13 & Feb. 10, 10-11 a.m.
1-5 year olds (with parent/caregiver)
Multipurpose Room
REGISTER ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING
Join us for a fun-filled hour of play-based learning for toddlers and preschoolers. Parents/caregivers will follow their child’s lead as they explore the materials provided while connecting with other families, interacting with the librarians, and getting information on early literacy programs at the library.

**Preschool Fair**

February 10, 2-4 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Parents are invited to drop in and visit with representatives from local preschools and child care centers. They will bring information about their programs and be on hand to answer questions. Call 248-650-7146 for more information.
Teen Events

Ages 13-18 are welcome at our teen events. If you have questions or comments, please email Allison.Sartwell@rhpl.org or call 248-650-7135.

Pokémon Club
Saturdays, Dec. 9, Jan. 13 & Feb. 10
2:30-4:30 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room
A casual gathering for teens to meet, compete and enjoy Pokémon together.

The Fabulous Vocabulous League
Writer’s Workshop
Saturdays Dec. 16, Jan. 20 & Feb. 17
2:30-4:30 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room
Interested in writing fiction or poetry? Come to this afternoon session and meet other teen writers, share your own work, learn tips and pointers, and enjoy snacks.

Teen Holiday Party
Friday, December 22
5:45-9 p.m.
Second Floor Conference Room
All area teens are invited to our after-hours Holiday Celebration with cookie decorating, games, movies, and food. You must register for this event and have a completed permission slip to attend.

NEW Local Partnership!

Young Feminists’ Council Meetings
Dec. 6, Jan. 24, & Feb. 28
7-8:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Are you a high schooler interested in advocating for women’s rights? Join the Young Feminists’ Council! We are a chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) and we’re looking for feminists to join! We take direct action in the fight for equality, and the education of young women!

Young Feminists’ Council Career Conference
December 9
3:30-5:45 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
The Young Feminists’ Council will be hosting a career conference for high school students! Our featured speakers will be from WORTH (Women’s Organization on Rights to Health) a student group at the University of Michigan. We will also host a biochemistry professor from the U of M medical school, and Phoebe Hopps, the founder and president at Women’s March Michigan, and many others!
Teen Advisory Board (TAB)

Wednesdays Dec. 6 & 20, Jan. 3 & 17, & Feb. 7 & 21
5:30-6:30 p.m.
Second Floor Conference Room
Have ideas for the library? Share your opinions on teen programs, prizes, displays and other library matters at these fun-filled meetings, all while eating pizza and making friends. TAB Members also get first dibs on fun volunteer projects around the library, and may use meeting time as volunteer hours as well!

Geek Club

First four Wednesdays of every month
7-8:45 p.m.
Second Floor Conference Room
A casual hang-out night for teens who enjoy graphic novels, manga, anime, video games, RPGs, etc. Snacks included. Welcome one and all!

Painting Party

Tuesday, February 20
6:30-8:30 p.m.,
Second Floor Conference Room
There are no mistakes, just happy accidents! Please register ahead of time to ensure we have enough supplies for everyone.

Smash Bros. Video Game Tournament

Saturday, January 6
2:30-5 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
We have GameCube controllers as well as Wii-motes. You may also bring your own 3DS. First and second place get prizes. Regular drop-in free play before and after the tournament as time allows.

Teen T-Shirt Totebags

Monday, January 15
2-4 p.m.,
Second Floor Conference Room
Learn how to make a cool bag out of an old t-shirt! Feel free to bring your own shirt, but we’ll also have a selection of the best the thrift stores have to offer. No registration or sewing skills required.

Silent Library Competition

Wednesday, January 31
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Compete with your team to finish wacky challenges...while completely silent! Look forward to hot peppers, cold water, reenacting complicated dance moves, and more! No registration required.

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6:30-8:30 p.m.,
Second Floor Conference Room
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The Newcomer’s Book Club: A Circle of Friends

Thursdays, Dec. 7 & 21, Jan. 11 & 25, Feb. 8 & 22, March 8 & 22 10-11:30 a.m.
Second Floor Conference Room

If you are new to this country and want to improve your English Conversation skills, then this is the group for you. At each session, the participants will read and discuss poems and short stories written in English. Together they will improve their English literacy skills while sharing traditions and cultures that celebrate diversity. The discussion sessions are facilitated by Dr. Elana Izraeli who has years of experience educating English Language learners. Registration is limited to RHPL library card holders. You may register online at calendar.rhpl.org or by contacting Michelle at 248-650-5681 or Michelle.Wisniewski@rhpl.org.

English Matters: ELL Conversation Group

Tuesdays, Jan. 9-Feb. 27, 10-11:30 a.m.
Thursdays, Jan. 11-March 1, 7-8:30 p.m.
Saturdays, Jan. 13-March 3, 10-11:30 a.m.

Our conversation groups are a time to come together and discuss hometowns, food, hobbies, jobs and other informal topics. Joining a group will introduce you to new friends and a great time! For further information contact, Kari at 248-650-7155.
**Wine, Wit and Wisdom**  
**Coming Spring of 2018**

Make sure you have April 14, 2018, circled on your calendar. That’s the date for the Rochester area’s “don’t miss” event of the spring: the Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library’s fifth annual “Wine, Wit and Wisdom.” Registration opens February 12.

Tickets are $55 per person; $65 after April 2. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with a strolling dinner catered by Rivercrest Manor, served at 6:45 p.m.

The event format: Strolling dinner and silent auction bidding, followed by a 45-minute presentation by one of six interesting presenters, followed by liquid refreshments, a second 45-minute speaker presentation and a dessert afterglow to announce silent auction winners. (Due to popular request, we are increasing the presentation lengths from 30 minutes to 45 minutes.)

**RESOURCES FOR SCOUTS**

The Boy Scouts of America recently announced they will allow girls to join their ranks starting next year. The goal is for women to eventually earn the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout.

Whether you are a Boy Scout or a Girl Scout, the Rochester Hills Public Library has resources for you. If you are a new troop, pack, or den, utilize the library to help find resources for your meetings and camping trips. We have merit badge books and handbooks available from both the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts, along with resources for Cubs, Daisies, Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Brownies, Webelos, and Juniors. Check out the collection in our youth department.

**A Unique Shopping Opportunity**

Friday, December 8, 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Saturday, December 9, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

During the year, the used book sales receive donations that are like new, sometimes even still in the original shrinkwrap. These are the items we put in our annual December sale. Besides some beautiful books, we have DVDs, CDs, books on CD, jigsaw puzzles, games, and toys. These items make great gifts and are all reasonably priced.

**Preview Movies for the Friends**

One of the most profitable areas of our used book sales is online, through Amazon. As of September 25, we have sold 2,171 items this year for a profit of $25,700. One of the most popular things we sell are used DVDs. Customer satisfaction is very important to us and we are very proud of maintaining a 100% satisfaction rating. Therefore, we want to make sure that the DVDs play properly before we list them for sale. If you like to watch movies, we could really use some help previewing the ones we wish to offer online.

If you are interested in previewing videos, call 248-650-7178 and leave a message, or email to rhplfriends@aol.com.
In Loving Memory

In Memoriam Bill Gawthrop, our jovial conductor, tireless reading champion, dog wrangler, and friend. There is a space in the Youth Room that can never be filled.

Local Partnerships

Scribes Writers’ Workshop
Second & Fourth Wednesdays
1–4 p.m.
Second Floor Conference Room

A twice monthly drop-in workshop for those who love to write, want to learn from more experienced writers, or just want to get their writing “juices” flowing. Members will write on a given topic or thought-starter, then give and take positive feedback. RHPL card holders have first priority but the workshop is open to others as well. For more information, call 248-650-7124.

Rochester Avon Historical Society

The Rochester Historical Society presents programs centered around Rochester historical events on the first Thursday of every month in the library’s Multipurpose Room. The programs are listed at calendar.rhpl.org. For more information call, 248-266-5440.
Women Make a Difference

Women make a difference in our world. To honor women who have had an impact on our world, the Rochester branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) is sponsoring an essay contest open to all 8th grade students in the Rochester and Avondale school districts. Students who write an essay telling about their experience could be the winner of the fifteenth annual Rochester AAUW 8th grade essay contest about "A Woman of Significance to Me."

Entry forms and instructions will be available at the middle schools, the Rochester Hills Public Library, the Auburn Hills Public Library and on the Rochester Hills library website after January 15, 2018.

Basic Computer Help for Seniors

New to computers, smartphones, tablets, email, or Microsoft Office? Make an hour-long appointment with a teen volunteer who can show you the basics here at the library. Call Allison at 248-650-7135 or email Allison.Sartwell@rhpl.org to schedule a time on a library computer or on your own device.

Smart Towns Partner Events

Smart Towns is a community collaboration that offers life-long learning opportunities throughout the Rochester area. The library’s Smart Town events are noted throughout the newsletter with the Smart Towns logo. More info on the program is at smarttowns.rhpl.org.

Micro-Finance: Your Chance to be an Agent of Change (just like a Nobel Prize winner!)
January 30 at 7 p.m., Rochester College

Same Song, Different Verses: the Anti-Catholic and Anti-Islamic Movements in America
February 26 at 7 p.m., Rochester College

Ongoing in the Adult Department

Community Puzzle Table
Enjoy spending time on a relaxing puzzle.

Adult Coloring Table
Relax at our coloring table. Adult coloring sheets and coloring supplies provided.

Sudoku
Simple and challenging. Fill in the blanks of the 9x9 grid so each row, column, and 3x3 section includes one instance of the numbers 1 through 9.

RHPL Letterboxes
Grab your logbook and an inkpad –there’s still time to look for all of our letterboxes! Find all our clues online at atlasquest.com or letterboxing.org and search RHPL or look on our website for our adult and teen letterboxes: rhpl.org -use the library-special events.

Checkout Slips
Readers may come across checkout cards in some of our books! If found, write the name of the book the card was found in on the checkout card, along with the date found, and then move the card to your favorite book to be found by another patron.

Please return the cards to the Adult Department on the 2nd floor of the Library when the cards are full. We will display returned cards for all to enjoy.
It was President John F. Kennedy who made the following plea for the sanctity of our libraries: “If this nation is to be wise as well as strong, if we are to achieve our destiny, then we need more new ideas from more wise men reading more good books in more public libraries. These libraries should be open to all except the censor. We must know all the facts, hear all the alternatives, and listen to all the criticisms. Let us welcome controversial books and controversial authors. For the Bill of Rights is the guardian of our security as well as our liberty.”

Here are some reasons why our libraries are still the place where we as a nation will achieve our destiny:

1. **The house of the 99%**: The foundation of democracy is an educated electorate. When the economy is down, it is all the more vital that we the people have access to information, education, news…and now in modern times the internet, computers, and other sources of media tools as well. Libraries do that for everyone.

2. **Libraries build equity**: Research shows that depressed neighborhoods and declining communities are culturally enriched by libraries. The institutions serve as a community focal point, like a town square, and communities that have this resource rebound.

3. **Community hope chest**: Libraries do not just curate the Harry Potter series and lend copies of the latest blockbusters on DVD, they also house special collections based on the needs and unique identities of the communities they serve.

4. **Renewable resource**: How much do you save by being able to borrow materials from the library? How helpful is it to have this resource – especially now that even retail bookstores, movie rental shops and record stores are closing?

5. **Literacy**: Studies show that children’s literacy is greatly improved by access to
summer reading programs and preschool reading programs offered at public libraries. And children’s literacy is a building-block of adult literacy.

6. **Leveling the playing field:** Libraries offer vital resources for communities that might not otherwise be served or feel integrated. People learning English (or other languages), the elderly, people with low vision, the homeless...just to name a few.

7. **Safe space:** In some communities, the public library may be the only free space available that is also a safe space. Victims of bullying, domestic violence, members of the LBGTQ community and many more can find a safe and welcoming space at the public library.

8. **Cultural touchstone:** Many libraries highlight art, music and performances by local artists. Likewise, the buildings themselves are often architecturally significant and enhance the beauty and character of the communities they serve.

9. **Drop in or drop out:** Libraries can also be a place that means the difference between a child’s success or failure in school. Homework resources, computers and educational programs are available to all regardless of their socioeconomic status.

These days, there are lots of people talking about how nobody reads anymore. But that’s just wrong. People are reading all the time. People are on Facebook, on Wikipedia, on blogs... They are using readers to read virtual copies of books. They are downloading newspapers and music to their devices. They are streaming movies at home or on the road. And people read books – with pages and paper and bindings - too. The Rochester Hills Public Library will check out almost 2 million items this year. People still read.

But the fact is there’s all kinds of other stuff besides lending books that RHPL does for people in our community every day: book programs and services for homebound seniors, after-school and summer reading programs for youth, early literacy training for preschoolers and their parents. Over 30,000 people attended programs at our library this year!

But more than that, it may just be the last space that is truly free for everyone – homeless, young, old, rich, poor, and all races, religions and ethnicities. Everyone is welcome at the public library. We are all equal here.

This column was adapted from one written for the Independent Voter Network by Emily Bristol in August 2012.

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**Christine Lind Hage**

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248-650-7122

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**Behind the Scenes Library Tour**

December 6, 10 a.m., Multipurpose Room

248-656-2900 for registration
Shop the Friends Store!

Count on the Friends Store for the unique, the whimsical and the elegant.

Charlie and Laura also regularly shop the Store’s selection of greeting cards. Our card lines are predominately made in the USA and include, among others: Leanin’ Tree, For Arts Sake, Mind’s Eye Designs, Carol’s Rose Garden, Gina B, Pomegranate, Words & Watercolors, SunDay, and Palm Press.

Note: We need some fresh, smiling faces! The store is run entirely by volunteers, and it might be just right for you. If you enjoy interacting with customers and have a few hours free each week, please stop by for an application.

Store Hours:
Monday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.
Tuesday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Wednesday – Saturday 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Sunday 1-4 p.m.

25% Off Holiday Decor
Excludes Pewabic Pottery and Friends Ornaments.
Original coupon must be presented in store at time of purchase.
One use only. Expires 12-31-2017

A Sign of Friendship
The Friends of RHPL’s logo is used throughout News & Views to denote programs that are supported with funding from the Friends. For information about joining the Friends, please call 248-650-7160.