A recent Gallup poll showed that Americans visited libraries more often than they went to the movies in 2019. Yes, you read that correctly!

The poll also showed that Midwesterners, women, and millennials are the most frequent users of the library. This is not surprising. We appreciate all of the moms, college students, computer users, etc. who are here so consistently, but our library is also regularly patronized by men, job-seekers, teens, and retirees. We are here for you all!

Did you know there are more public libraries than there are McDonald’s in the United States? Doesn’t that statistic make you feel good about the state of our country? 62% of adults in the U.S. have a public library card & public libraries are the number one point of access for people who don’t have internet connections at home, work, or school.

My point is that libraries are still relevant and necessary. We support literacy of all kinds, we provide entertainment and educational resources, we’re a great place to meet others in the community and we offer all kinds of ways to save money. Google and Amazon are great and convenient, but they’re not a threat to libraries. We’re learning to provide what they can’t and to use them to our advantage.

You may hear some say, “Who even goes to the library anymore?” Well, you can share these facts with them, encourage them to come see what the library is all about and to get themselves a library card. According to author Lillian Jackson Braun, “A library card is the start of a lifelong adventure.” We promise, we will be here for you to help you on that adventure. Programs are free and there are no overdue fines. You also don’t have to buy anything to use the Wi-Fi here!

Happy Reading,
Claire Lopiccolo, Director
Romeo District Library

P.S. Are you wondering how you can contribute to the library? Even if you don’t have time to volunteer, you can join the Friends of the Library at www.romeodistrictlibrary.org/friends/join. Membership is only $10 and does not obligate you to do anything—unless you want to!

Questions or ideas? You can reach me on email at: claire@romeodistrictlibrary.org. Or call 586-752-0603 x1018
Detroit Beer: A History of Brewing  
Thursday March 5th 7:00 pm  
There’s a little history brewing at the Romeo District Library! Tap a keg of fun with Stephen Johnson, author of *Detroit Beer* & proprietor of Motor City Brew Tours, as he presents the story of hometown beer from the first downtown breweries to the craft beer craze beginning in the 90s. Wet your appetite for local history with us.

Knitters’ Meet Up  
Monday March 16th 6:45 - 8:15 pm  
Thursdays 3:15 - 4:45 pm  
April 9th, May 14th & June 11th  
Come join us for knitting, good conversation and the chance to help each other with our projects. Bring your current Work-in-Progress, and knit uninterrupted. Beginners are welcome! Knitting books are at 746.432 in the stacks or go to Creativebug through our website.

Hospice of Michigan  
Thursday March 19th 7:00 pm  
End of life decisions are stressful, painful and confusing. Hospice advisor Angela Greene joins us to answer your questions, your concerns and misunderstandings about hospice care to help ease your mind. A difficult topic to adress, but one that remains very important nonetheless.

Urban Forestry Part II  
Thursday March 12th 7:00 pm  
Join us for a second program on urban forestry. Learn further tips, techniques and innovative ideas for improving our community through the addition of trees.

Awareness Bracelets  
Thursday March 26th 7:00 pm  
Do you have an issue you feel strongly about & like making jewelry? Then why not combine those two passions with us for an evening of fun making awareness bracelets. Whatever the cause, step right up and wear your colors proudly with these beautiful bracelets. Supplies provided and space is limited, so registration is required. To register, call (586) 752-0603.

Psychology and You  
Thursday April 9th 7:00 pm  
Toni Pizzimenti, a counselor in the Macomb area, is coming to talk about defense mechanisms that we all use in order to avoid difficult emotions. She will give a brief overview on common defense mechanisms and provide an interactive presentation. This will include small exercises to begin tapping into your own emotions and learning about your own mental health habits.

Sheila Landis Trio  
Thursday April 16th 7:00 pm  
If you enjoy jazz and swing music, you are in for a treat. The talented Sheila Landis Trio will be performing a beautiful Ella Fitzgerald tribute concert. Feel the powerful music that backed Ella’s wonderful voice, tap your feet or get up and dance to the music that proves, as Ella herself sang, “It don’t mean a thing, if it ain’t got that swing.”

Surprise Springtime Craft  
Thursday April 23rd 7:00 pm  
Tap into the creative talents of our friends from Wolcott Mill and join us once again for a fun mystery craft. Who knows what it could be? Will you be able to carry it home and will it fit in the car? Or will it fit on the head of a pin? Supplies are provided, but class size is limited and registration is required. So call (586) 752-0603 today to share in the fun.

We are Not Alone  
Thursday April 30th 7:00 pm  
Is there life on other planets? Could beings from another world have already visited us? With so many sightings, can it all just be a hoax? Join us as William Konkelsky of MUFON discusses some of the best new cases in UFO sightings and alien contact. Come with an open mind and be prepared to enjoy a thought-provoking evening.

Social Security Workshop  
Thursday May 7th 7:00 pm  
Come let Peggy Bartz from Romain Financial take the mystery out of Social Security so you can learn the options and the best time to opt in to the program. Social Security plus and many other related issues will be discussed.
**The Orphan Train Era**
**Tuesday, May 14th 7:00 pm**
From 1854 - 1929, over 200,000 orphaned, abandoned and homeless children in the U.S. were transported on trains and disbursed to families in the Midwest. Join historians AI and David Eicher for a multimedia presentation on the little known Orphan Train Era and learn how and why this sad policy was enacted.

**Soap Making Demo Class**
**Thursday, May 21st 7:00 pm**
Come watch, learn and ask questions as soap maker Mary Quaine demonstrates how the wonderful hand-made soaps you find in the shops are produced. Registration is required as class size is limited. Call (586) 752-0603.

**Missing in Action: Lt. Spinnings and a crashed B-17 survival story**
**Thursday, June 4th, 7pm**
During WWII, Lt. Spinnings was shot down and captured in Germany. Now, his daughter brings the story of his escape from captivity and his trek to freedom, with vivid detail of her own journey to retrace her father’s footsteps, including the discovery of a piece of her father’s own B-17. Join us for this memorable talk about ‘one who served’.

**Jigsaw Puzzle Connection**
**Saturdays 1:00 - 4:00 pm**
March 21st, April 18 & May 30th
Compete with other jigsaw enthusiasts to win prizes and have fun with your friends and family.

**Graubner Library**
**Tuesday Book Group**
First Tuesday of the Month  1:30 pm
March 3rd
*The Child* by Fiona Barton
April 7th
*We Need to Talk About Kevin* by Lionel Shriver
May 5th
*Clock Dance* by Anne Tyler
June 2nd
*Then She Was Gone* by Lisa Jewell

**Pokémon Terrarium Craft**
**Tuesday, March 3rd 6:00 - 7:00 pm**
Come make your own Pokémon terrarium with your favorite figure with rocks, live plants and other items. All supplies provided. For teens in grades 6-12.

**Dungeons and Dragons**
**Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:30 pm**
March 4th & 18th, April 1st & 15th, May 6th & 20th and June 3rd
Come join us as we continue on with our exciting journey into the world of Dungeons & Dragons. Pizza and snacks provided. For teens, grades 6-12.

**Game On! Board Games**
**Saturdays 12:00 - 2 pm**
March 7th & April 4th
Drop in for some table top gaming! We will have a variety of games: Ticket to Ride, King of Tokyo, Carcassonne, Azul and others! Registration is not required. This program is for all ages. Bring the family and have fun!

**Teen Anime Club**
**Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm**
March 24th, April 7th & 21st, and May 12th & 26th
Love all things anime and love reading manga? Then come join the Teen Anime Club! We’ll watch anime, do crafts and eat all the Pocky! Snacks will be provided. For teens in grades 6-12.

**Super Smash Bros Tournament**
**Wednesdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm**
March 25th, April 22nd and May 27th
Drop in for some awesome gaming! We can play Super Smash Bros Ultimate, Pokken Tournament and Mario Kart! Snacks and refreshments will be available. Registration is not required. For teens in grades 6-12.
Free Comic Book Day & Board Games
Saturday May 2nd All Day All Ages
Stop by the library to get some free comics! We will also have plenty of board games to play. For all ages.

Storytime at Graubner
Baby Storytime Ages 0-2
Mondays 10:30 - 11:30 am & 12:00 - 1:00 pm
March 2nd, 16th & 23rd, April 13th, 20th & 27th and May 4th
Come join us for songs, stories, lap bounces, and sensory play time. For ages 0-2 with a caregiver.
And, due to popular demand, we now have 2 sessions: one in the morning and one at noon!

Toddler Storytime Ages 2-3
Tuesdays 10:30 - 11:30 am
March 3rd, 17th & 24th, April 14th, 21st & 28th and May 5th
Come for a fun-filled hour with stories, music, movement, and a craft! For children ages 2-3 and a caregiver.

Preschool Storytime Ages 4-5
Thursdays 10:30 - 11:30 am
March 5th, 19th & 26th, April 16th, 23rd & 30th and May 7th
Join us for stories, songs, movement and a craft. For children ages 4-5.

A Parade of Elephants: Ages 0-5
“March is Reading Month” Storytime
Friday March 6th 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Celebrate “March is Reading Month!”
Join us for this special storytime sponsored by the Library of Michigan. We will read this year’s featured book, A Parade of Elephants by Kevin Henkes, sing songs, and make fun elephant crafts.

Sign With Me: ASL for Children
Saturdays March 21st & April 18th 10:30 - 11:30 am
Join American Sign Language (ASL) students from Romeo High School for a short storytime and an introductory lesson in the joys of signing for grades K-5.

Battle of the Books 5th Graders only
Saturday March 28th 10:30 am - 2:30 pm
Coaches, please make sure your team members and final team name are registered by March 14th!

Toy Story 4 Movie Matinee
Wednesday April 8th 1:00 pm
Bring a pillow & blanket and enjoy snacks while we watch Toy Story 4. For all ages.

Disney Family Trivia
Saturday April 11th 1:00 - 2:30 pm All Ages
Come test your knowledge of all things Disney/Pixar at this family trivia event! Teams of 2 or more will work together to answer questions on Disney/Pixar movies to win prizes. Registration is required and begins March 11.

STEM Club
Saturdays March 14th & April 25th 1:00 pm
Saturday May 30th 10:30 am All Ages
Calling all young scientists! Come do some cool projects and experiments with Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. April 25th will be an Earth Day special!

Little Explorers
Friday 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Ages 0-5
March 20th and April 17th
Come get messy with us as we explore with our five senses! We will have a variety of sensory stations to enjoy with activities such as: kinetic sand, water beads, paint, and much more! No registration required.

Notice: Registration is required for many Children’s Services programs. To register call (586) 752-0603, then press 5 for the Children’s Department. You may also register in person at the Children’s desk or online at romeodistrictlibrary.org.
**ADuLt ProgrAms**

**Crochet Along with Creativebug**  
Tuesdays 5:30 - 7:00 pm  
March 17th & 31st, April 14th & 28th  
Join us as we crochet along with a Creativebug class to make a slouchy cardigan. A great introduction to creating garments, this class will be a cooperative effort with all pitching in to help. Go to mistitchintime.weebly.com for a list of materials or contact Julie at Kezar Library.

**The Elusive Purple Gang**  
Tuesday April 7th 6:00 pm  
Join us as author Gregory A. Fournier presents the story of Detroit’s most notorious Prohibition-era gang in his true crime account, *The Elusive Purple Gang: Detroit’s Kosher Nostra*. The only Jewish gang in the United States to dominate the rackets of a major American city, the Purple Gang’s meteoric rise and self-destructive plunge through the underworld is a gripping Detroit drama.

**Scanning Party at Kezar for the Romeo Community Archive**  
Saturday April 18th 11:00 am – 1:30 pm  
Do you have photos of local history? Bring them in, with as much information as possible, and staff will scan them for inclusion in our Romeo Community Archives Digital Collection. We will help digitally preserve your photos and you will receive a flashdrive with digital copies. See romeocommunityarchives.blogspot.com for more information, or contact Stacie or Julie at Kezar Library.

**Kezar Library Book Groups**

**“Great Books” Group**  
First Thursday of the Month 5:45 pm  
March 5th  
*The Keeper of Lost Things* by Phaedra Patrick  
April 2nd  
*In the Unlikely Event* by Judy Blume  
February 6th  
*The Women of Copper Country* by Mary Doria Russell

**History’s Mysteries Book Group**  
Third Tuesday of the Month 5:45 pm  
March 17th  
*The Darwin Affair* by Timothy Mason  
April 21st  
*The Confessions of Frannie Langton* by Sara Collins  
May 19th  
*The Plague of Doves* by Louis Erdrich
The Joy of Fermenting
Thursday  May 28th 6:00 pm
Sauerkraut / Kimchi, Sourdough Wraps, Yoghurt, Kombucha & “Young Mead”. Join us as we learn the benefits of these traditional fermenting foods from Deanne Bednar of Strawbale Studios and see demonstrations of how you can start making them at home.

Coffee and Books
Fridays  10:00 am
March 20th, April 17th & May 15th
Enjoy a cup of coffee, tea, or hot chocolate and a treat while sharing what you have read--or are reading with others. A great way to learn about a new book to read!

Historical Book Society
Last Thursday of the month, 6:00 pm
March 26th, April 30th and May 28th
Do you like history & like to share what you read with other like minded history buffs? Then come join our group as we focus on biographies and other non-fiction. This is not a book group and there are no assigned readings.

Children’s Programs
Toddler Play and Learn
Fridays  11:00 am - 12:00 pm
March 6th & May 11th
Age appropriate play time for children ages 12 months to 3 years in a semi-structured activity, plus time for free play. Fun for the children and a chance for parents and caregivers to socialize while interacting with their children.

Saturday Crafts @ Kezar
Saturdays  11:00 am - 1:00 pm
March 14th, April 25th & May 9th
Join us each month for a fun, often seasonal, craft to make and take home! Call for more on what we’re up to next.

STEAM, Jr.
Saturdays  11:00 am - 1:00 pm
March 28th & April 25th
STEAM for younger kids! Preschool-3rd grade. Come and learn science, engineering, and math, all while using your creative imagination in a fun, informal, and engaging way. Learn through play!

Perler Bead Creations
Monday April 6  1:00 - 3:00 pm
Start your Spring Break with a fun afternoon at the Library with Perler Beads. Use your imagination to create a rainbow of possibilities! Suitable for ages 4 and up. Bring a friend! Teens are welcome to join in the fun!

Fun With Playdough
Tuesday April 7th  12:00 - 2:00 pm
Come to Kezar and have some squishy fun with Playdough! Suitable for ages 12 months and up!

Lego Day!
Wednesday April 8th  12:00 - 4:00 pm
Bring a friend and see what you can build! Your creations will be displayed in the library for the month of April.

Odds and Ends Craft Day
Thursday April 9th  12:00 - 4:00 pm
Help Ms. Jeanette clean up all the leftover craft supplies by using your imagination to create something wonderful to take home! It’s a win-win, you make something awesome and Ms. Jeanette has a clean(er) supply room! Fun for all ages and abilities! Bring a friend!

Storytime at Kezar
“Ready To Read Michigan” Storytime
Thursday  March 5th 11:30 am
As part of our Family Storytime, we will be reading “A Parade of Elephants” (see Graubner Storytimes above) and will continue the elephants theme with related stories, songs and a craft.

Baby and Me Storytime
Every Tuesday  11:30 am   Ages 0-2
A special storytime for ages 0-2 and their caregivers. Lots of songs, rhymes, stories, and interactive fun! Siblings welcome. No registration required.

Family Storytime
Every Thursday 11:30 am
Join us for a traditional storytime for families with children of all ages. Lively and fun, new and classic stories along with rhymes, songs, and a craft. No registration required.
An Evening with Author Mary Doria Russell

Monday  May 18th  7pm


Friends of the Romeo District Authors Events

Two exciting events are coming this spring--one at each of the Graubner and Kezar branches--sponsored by the Friends of the Romeo District Library.

- at Kezar Library -

An Evening with Author Karen Dionne
*A special after-hours event at Kezar*
Monday  March 9th  7pm

Brought to you by the Friends, Karen Dionne, bestselling author of the critically acclaimed novel, *The Marsh King’s Daughter*, comes to Kezar Library to talk about her writing and her new psychological suspense thriller, *The Wicked Sister*, which comes out this summer. Both of these books are set in the Upper Peninsula. Learn more at www.karen-dionne.com. Copies of her book will be available for sale at the event.

- at Graubner Library -

An Evening with Author Mary Doria Russell

Monday  May 18th  7pm


Graubner Library
65821 Van Dyke
Washington, MI  48095
(586) 752-0603

Kezar Library & Romeo Comm. Archive
107 Church St.
Romeo, MI  48065
(586) 752-2583

Graubner and Kezar Libraries will be closed April 12th, Easter Sunday, and May 23rd - 25th for Memorial Day weekend.