

YEAR IN REVIEW JULY 2024 - JUNE 2025

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear Library Community,

The past year at Cromaine Library was one of transformation, imagination, and connection. Guided by the Strategic Plan, staff have taken meaningful steps toward creating spaces that reflect the vibrant community we serve. We have focused on building not just for today—but for the generations who will gather, learn, and grow here in the years to come.



In January 2025, the Library Board of Trustees approved a concept plan to reimagine our beloved South Lawn. What began as an idea—to make better use of our outdoor space—has evolved into a vision for a dynamic, welcoming landscape that invites people to read under the trees, attend outdoor concerts and storytimes, or simply enjoy a quiet moment in nature. The project, named "Cromaine Commons," will include new walkways, lighting, landscaping, and a permanent pavilion that will make year-round outdoor programming possible. It's a transformation of the space, designed not just for beauty, but for community.

Inside the Library, we've been investing in the future in a different way—through Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology that enhances access and convenience for every library user. RFID tags are small, electronic chips placed in books that let staff and self-check stations quickly identify, track, and manage items using radio waves instead of barcodes. This upgrade will eventually allow us to introduce after-hours pickup lockers, ensuring that our community can access materials whenever it's most convenient for them.

At the same time, we're working to bring the Library to those who can't come to us. Our Homebound Delivery Pilot Program is developing into a lifeline for patrons who are unable to visit the Library in person due to age, illness, or disability. Each month, dedicated staff deliver books, movies, and other materials directly to homes throughout our service area—keeping the joy of reading, learning, and discovery alive for every member of our community. These visits offer more than just materials; they're a connection to the outside world, and a reminder that the Library belongs to everyone, regardless of circumstance.

Through it all, what has remained constant is the energy and engagement of our patrons. This year, the Library has continued to be a place where ideas are shared, creativity flourishes, and neighbors come together. Whether at a bustling children's program, a thoughtful book discussion, or a quiet afternoon browsing for a good book, we have witnessed countless moments of learning and connection that remind us why this work matters.

- Sarah Neidert

MISSION

Cultivating Connection.
Nurturing Learning.
Inspiring Discovery.

VISION

To be the community's essential destination for connection, enjoyment, and learning.

Bill Bolin President

Jeannine GogoleskiVice President

Nancy Rosso Secretary

Becky Basley Treasurer Kim Armstrong Trustee

Holly Naylor Trustee **Dawn Smith** Trustee

Sarah Neidert Library Director **TRUSTEES**





20,831 697 people connected through programs.

111,303
quests were welcomed through

guests were welcomed through Cromaine's doors.

Up 18% from the previous Year!



2.17 MILLION

items in the physical & digital collection, allowing unlimited opportunities for learning.

331,318

Total items checked out, on any subject you can imagine!

9,309 active Cardholders, up

8.5% from last year.

Reaching 31% of our service area!





community members (206 Adults, 681 Youth) read more than 900,000

> minutes in our Summer Reading Challenge.



More than

1,000

guests joined us on the South Lawn for the Summer Concert Series.

326 Music Hall

Reservations and

1,879

Meeting and Study Room Reservations were made.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES SPONSORS

Don Thompson Friends of Cromaine Library Hartland Insurance Agency

Bank of Ann Arbor LOC Credit Union Dick and Barbara Krueger The Rokas Family Village Manor Retirement





FINANCIAL DONATIONS

\$ 22,225
Individuals and Organizations

\$5,950 Kilgen Organ Fundraiser

\$ 20,000 Friends of the Library

\$48,175 Total Donations/ Grants

GENERAL DONATIONS

Anonymous

Mary Cafmeyer

Rob Clark

Judith Kleeves

Kenneth Nothaft

Michael Palmer

Randy Park

Wendy Parks

Howell Rotary Club

Jennifer Spamer

MATERIALS

Howell Rotary Club

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MEMORIAL DONORS

Anonymous

Mark Gillis Memorial

Richard Krueger

Yvette Accorsi-Boulton

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Don Thompson

Friends of Cromaine Library

Hartland Insurance Agency

Bank of Ann Arbor

LOC Credit Union

Dick and Barbara Krueger

The Rokas Family

Village Manor Retirement

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

American Legion Post 415

Dunn Family Kona Ice

Jennie Vanden Brulle

STAFF APPRECIATION

Dawn Smith

KILGEN ORGAN DONORS

Fundraiser in May of 2025 to raise funds for upkeep of the Kilgen Organ in the Hartland Music Hall.

Anonymous

Kim Armstrong

James and Sharman

Galezewski

Jeannine Gogoleski

Philip Hagele

Robert Judge

Barbara Krueger

Lee MacBride

Philip MacBride

Robert MacBride

Mary Morris

Donald Thompson

Alice Wyland

Eileen Zilch





EXPENDITURE Library Materials & Services \$4445,722 Facilities and Equipment \$143,886 Other Operating \$210,806 Capital Outlay \$251,969