

# Hartford Public Library

12 Church St. Hartford, MI 49057

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## Director's Corner

By Stephanie Daniels

### March is READING MONTH!

Join us at the Hartford Public Library for our **March Reading Challenge!** We have opportunities for adults, independent readers and read-to-me children. Adults and independent readers read five books from the Hartford Public Library during the month of March and earn an entry into our prize drawing. Winners may choose a gift card from Roblox, Dollar General or Panel Room restaurant. Students and independent readers must read at their current level to qualify. Stop by the library to sign up and start tracking your reading. Let's make March a month full of stories, imagination, and fun!

### The "Lego Zoo" is coming to the Library!

The *Southwest Michigan Lego Users Group* will be presenting a brand-new display at the Hartford Public Library community room.

**MONDAY, MARCH 16<sup>th</sup> through FRIDAY, MARCH 20<sup>th</sup>**, during library hours

The completely new exhibit, titled "**The Lego Zoo**" has been months in the making and promises to delight visitors of all ages. From creative animal builds to detailed zoo scenes this is a display you will not want to miss! Bring the whole family and experience the creativity and imagination of local Lego builders.

### Library of Michigan Notable Author Visit!

The Hartford Public Library has been selected to be visited by **Evelyn Sterne** whose book, "*The House of David: Salvation, Scandal, and Survival in a Modern American Commune*" will be discussed on **Saturday, April 25 at 11am**.

Every year, the **Library of Michigan** selects up to twenty of the most notable books, either written by a Michigan resident or about Michigan or the Great Lakes.

The **Michigan Notable Books** program is sponsored in part by the Library of Michigan Foundation, Michigan Center for the Book, and Michigan Humanities. Donate online to the Library of Michigan Foundation to help support Michigan Notable Books.

### Charlie Cart Cooking Program Debut!

The Hartford Public Library is excited to introduce our new mobile kitchen unit, The **Charlie Cart**, made possible through a generous grant from the **Corewell Health Foundation of Southwest Michigan**. **Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm** in the library community room

The debut cooking program is open to parents and children. Families will work together to prepare a delicious snack using the Charlie Cart. All food and materials are provided free of charge.

Registration is required for this session. Beginning June 23, we will offer weekly cooking sessions- more details coming soon!

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# Hartford Public Library 2026 March - May Newsletter



# MARCH

# READING MONTH

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> Free Bingo @ 2pm Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm Lion's Club @ 6pm	<b>3</b> Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm	<b>4</b> Chamber of Commerce Meeting @ 5:30pm Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	<b>5</b> No Family Links Hartford American Legion @ 6:30pm	<b>6</b> Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm	<b>7</b>
<b>9</b> Free Bingo @ 2pm Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	<b>10</b> Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm Library Board Meeting @ 7pm	<b>11</b> Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	<b>12</b> Family Links Playgroup @ 11am	<b>13</b> Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm	<b>14</b>
<b>16</b> Free Giant Zoo Lego Exhibit NO Bingo Cardio Drumming @ 6pm at Redwood Elem. Gym Lion's Club @ 6pm	<b>17</b> Free Giant Zoo Lego Exhibit Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm	<b>18</b> Free Giant Zoo Lego Exhibit Book Club @ 2pm Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club @ 5pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm at Redwood Elem. Gym	<b>19</b> Free Giant Zoo Lego Exhibit Family Links Playgroup @ 11am	<b>20</b> Free Giant Zoo Lego Exhibit Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm	<b>21</b> VBRGS Event @ 11am - Presenter: Brian Lightner: "Ben Hur by Lew Wallace"
<b>23</b> Free Bingo @ 2pm Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	<b>24</b> Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm	<b>25</b> Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	<b>26</b> Family Links Playgroup @ 11am	<b>27</b> Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm	<b>28</b>
<b>30</b> Free Bingo @ 2pm Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm  Strawberry Royalty Sign Up 12pm-6:00pm	<b>31</b> Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm  Strawberry Royalty Sign Up 12pm-4:30pm	<p><b>March is Reading Month! Celebrate with us and earn a chance to win!</b></p> <p><b>Adults (18+):</b> Read 5 books in March → Enter to win a gift card to The Panel Room.</p> <p><b>Kids (Independent Readers):</b> Read 5 books → Enter to win a gift card to Dollar General or Roblox.</p> <p><b>"Read To Me" Kids:</b> Read 15 books → Enter to win a Dollar General gift card.</p> <p>Read. Win. Celebrate all month long at the library</p>			



# April



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Free Kids Dance Drumming @ 2pm A Great Fitness Program for Kids Chamber of Commerce Meeting @ 5:30pm Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm Strawberry Royalty Sign Up 12pm-5pm	<b>2</b> Little Artists' Lab @ 2pm: Kids will paint on canvas  Hartford American Legion @ 6:30pm  Strawberry Royalty Sign Up 12pm-7pm	<b>3</b> Brick Zone 10am-4:00pm	<b>4</b>
<b>6</b> Free Bingo @ 2pm Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm Lion's Club @ 6pm	<b>7</b> Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm	<b>8</b> Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	<b>9</b> Family Links Playgroup @ 11am	<b>10</b> Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm	<b>11</b>

## Hartford Public Library 2026 March - May Newsletter



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>13 Free Bingo @ 2pm</b> Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	<b>14 Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm</b> Library Board Meeting @ 7pm	<b>15 Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b> Book Club @ 2pm <b>Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club @ 5pm</b>	<b>16 Family Links Playgroup @ 11am</b>	<b>17 Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm</b>	<b>18 VBRGS Event @ 11am- Presenter Debbie Stasek: "Genealogy Tools and Websites"</b>
<b>20 Free Bingo @ 2pm</b> Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm <b>Lion's Club @ 6pm</b>	<b>21 Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm</b>	<b>22 Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b>	<b>23 Family Links Playgroup @ 11am</b>	<b>24 Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm</b>	<b>25 HPL Visiting Author @ 11am - Evelyn Savidge Sterne</b> Book: The House of David: Salvation, Scandal, and Survival In a Modern American Commune
<b>27 Free Bingo @ 2pm</b> Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	<b>28 Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm</b>	<b>29 Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b>	<b>30 Family Links Playgroup @ 11am</b>		



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1 Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4 Free Bingo @ 2pm</b> <b>Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b> Lion's Club @ 6pm	<b>5 Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm</b>	<b>6 Chamber of Commerce Meeting @ 5:30pm</b> <b>Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b>	<b>7 Family Links Playgroup @ 11am</b> <b>Hartford American Legion @ 6:30pm</b>	<b>8 Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>11 Free Bingo @ 2pm</b> <b>Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b>	<b>12 Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm</b> Library Board Meeting @ 7pm	<b>13 Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b> Kids Craft Project @ 2pm	<b>14 Family Links Playgroup @ 11am</b>	<b>15 Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm</b>	<b>16 VBRGS Event @ 11am - Presenter Mark Tomlonson "Railroads &amp; Daily Life"</b>
<b>18 Free Bingo @ 2pm</b> <b>Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b> Lion's Club @ 6pm	<b>19 Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm</b>	<b>20 Book Club @ 2pm</b> Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club @ 5pm <b>Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b>	<b>21 Family Links Playgroup @ 11am</b> Family Cooking Class 3:30pm-4:30pm; Registration required	<b>22 Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm</b>	<b>23 HPL Closed for Memorial Day Weekend</b>
<b>25 HPL Closed</b> 	<b>26 Crafty Corner 2pm-3pm</b>	<b>27 Free Cardio Drumming @ 6pm</b>	<b>28 Family Links Playgroup @ 11am</b>	<b>29 Brick Zone 3pm-4:30pm</b>	<b>30</b>



## Hartford Public Library Free Services & Resources

### Free Digital Services & Library Resources

Access many of our free services anytime through our website:  
[www.hartfordpl.michlibrary.org](http://www.hartfordpl.michlibrary.org)

#### Hoopla

Digital Movies, Music & More  
Instantly borrow free digital movies, music, eBooks, and more – 24/7 with your library card.

#### Libby

Borrow eBooks, audiobooks, magazines, and more from your local library for free. Libby is loved by millions of readers worldwide.

#### Inter-Library Loan (MeLCat)

MeLCat is a statewide network of Michigan libraries that share books, DVDs, music, and more. Patrons may submit requests at the library or from their own computer through MeLCat or [mel.org](http://mel.org).

#### Hartford Day Spring Newspaper Archive (1887-1972)

Search the Hartford Day Spring Newspaper archive through a link on our website. Find obituaries and historical news articles, explore local history, or enjoy a trip down memory lane.

#### Computer Lab Access

All are welcome to use the Hartford Public Library computer lab, featuring 12 public access computers.

- ✓ Free to use and open to the public
- ✓ Children under 18 must have a signed parent permission slip
- ✓ All computers have printing capabilities

Printing fees: 20¢ per page (black & white) | 50¢ per page (color)  
Please ask a librarian for a copy of our current internet use policies.

### Book Club at Hartford Public Library

Join one of our Book Clubs! The Hartford Public Library Book Clubs meet on the third Wednesday of each month.

- Adult Book Club: 2:00 PM
- Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club: 5:00 PM

Interested in participating? Call our MeL Office at (269) 588-5103 ext. 4, and we'll provide a copy of the book for you to borrow.

We'd love to have you join the discussion!

### Upcoming Book For Spring 2026

#### Adult Book Club

**March 18 @ 2pm** - *Beautiful Ugly* by Alice Feeney

**April 15 @ 2pm** - *The Book Club For Troublesome Women*  
by Marie Bostwick

**May 20 @ 2pm** - *The River We Remember*  
by William Kent Krueger

#### Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club

**March 18 @ 5pm** - *The Afterlife Project* by Tim Weed

**April 15 @ 5pm** - *World War Z* by Max Brooks

**May 20 @ 5pm** - *I'm Afraid You've Got Dragons*  
by Peter S. Beagle

### **Van Buren Regional Genealogical Society at the Hartford Public Library**

The Van Buren Regional Genealogical Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving family and local history through ancestral records, photographs, manuscripts, and other historical materials. Established in 1987, the Society works to support genealogical research for residents and visitors alike. In partnership with the Hartford Public Library, the Society hosts the Genealogy & Local History collection, offering thousands of resources and knowledgeable volunteers to help people explore their roots, especially across southwest Michigan.



### **About Your Library**

**Hartford Public Library**  
12 Church St.  
Hartford, MI 49057  
Phone: (269) 588-5103  
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Email: [hartfordplib@yahoo.com](mailto:hartfordplib@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.hartfordpl.michlibrary.org](http://www.hartfordpl.michlibrary.org)

### **Hartford Public Library Board of Directors**

The Hartford Public Library Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Library.

President: James Jonatzke  
Vice-President: Faith Dowd  
Secretary: Linda Hadley

Treasurer - Ellen Friday  
Trustee - Anne Blocker  
Trustee - Pam Bench



### **Hours**

Mon. & Wed.  
10am-7pm  
Tues., Thurs. & Fri.  
10am-5pm  
Sat.  
10am-2pm