

VANDERLYN
COMMUNITY CENTER/
HARTFORD PUBLIC
LIBRARY

12 Church St.
P.O Box 8
Hartford, MI 49057

Phone: 269-588-5103
Fax: 269-621-3073
E-mail: hartfordlib@yahoo.com
Website:
www.hartfordpl.michlibrary.org



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12 CHURCH ST.
HARTFORD, MI
49057

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Hours

Monday 10am - 7pm
Tuesday 10am - 5pm
Wednesday 10am - 7pm
Thursday 10am - 5pm
Friday 10am - 5pm
Saturday 10am - 2pm
Sunday CLOSED

Hartford Public Library Vanderlyn Community Center 2023 Winter/Spring Newsletter

January 2023

Christmas in Hartford

The Hartford Christmas Celebration was wonderful this year. We had 470 people attending the event. There was cookie decorating, pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, hot dogs and beverages, coloring sheets and our Christmas Lego Village display. The Hartford Lions Club sponsored the photos with Santa. The Hartford Chamber of Commerce had a drawing for four \$50 cash prizes and the Hartford Library had a drawing for a mountain bike. Everyone enjoyed the lighted parade. Hartford Royalty were on-hand to assist with the event. Thank you for everyone who made this event possible.



Book Club

The Hartford Book Club meets every third Wed. of the month at 2PM to discuss a book which is selected by the members. It is very casual and is held at the Vanderlyn Community Center/Hartford Public Library. If you are interested, please notify the staff and the book will be supplied through Mel Cat for your use.

**Upcoming Books for
Winter/Spring 2023**

February 15

“The Only Woman in the Room”
By Marie Benedict

March 15

“The Spanish Daughter”
By Lorena Hughes

April 19

“The Ladies’ Midnight Swimming Club”
By Faith Hogan

May 17

“The Silent Wife”
By Kerry Fisher

Hartford Public Library Board of Directors

The Hartford Library Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM in the Vanderlyn Community Center/Hartford Public Library. Board meetings are open to the public.

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

Treasurer - Ellen Friday
Trustee - Susan Hall
Trustee - Anne Blocker

DID YOU KNOW?

The library provides many services for the community.

- *Books and other materials
- *DVD Movie Club
- *12 Public access computers
- *Wi-Fi (wireless internet)
- *Mobile hotspot lending
- *Laptop Lending
- *Children and adult tablet lending
- *Children’s programs
- *Book Club
- *Copies (20¢ for black and white 50¢ color)
- *Faxes (\$1.00 for first page and 50¢ for each additional page. 50¢ per page for incoming faxes.)
- *Free book downloads.
- *MEL: An inter-loan library service
- *Community Room rental

The Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Hartford Public Library hold their meetings the last Tuesday of each month, except for January & December. The meetings are held in the Vanderlyn Community Center at 4:00PM. **Everyone is welcome to join!** For more information please visit our website:

www.hartfordpl.michlibrary.org



Inside this issue:

Winter Wonders	2
Spring Surprises	2
What’s Free!	2
HPL Calendar	3
Book Club	4
Library Board	4

Director’s Corner

The Hartford Public Library had over 17,000 patron visits in 2022. It was wonderful to get back to normal from the pandemic. We remain hopeful that 2023 will even be a better year for everyone. Our internet hotspot program is doing very well. Patrons in our community may check out a hotspot for an internet connection at their home. We have both 4G and 5G hotspots. The hotspots can be checked-out for one week at a time. To check-out a hotspot you must have a Hartford library card and a Michigan driver’s license or Michigan State ID. Through a grant from the American Rescue Plan and the Library of Michigan, we have 20 laptops available for circulation to members of our community. These laptops include Microsoft Office and other software for education and business. The laptop combined with a hotspot will enable access to the internet for education, business, communication and entertainment. Each laptop comes with a carry case, mouse and charging cord. New in 2022 is Senior Bingo, every Monday at 2pm in the meeting room. This program is free to everyone. Prizes are donated by the Friends of the Hartford Library and donations. We have a wonderful group that does Cardio Drumming every Monday from 6pm to 7pm in the meeting room. If you are interested, stop in the library during their session. We were able to bring back our Halloween Carnival with games and prizes on Oct. 29th. We had over 260 children participating. We want to thank all our volunteers that helped with the games and prizes. The Van Buren Regional Genealogical Society offers wonderful programs here at the library from March through October every third Saturday at 11am. They have had very interesting and informative speakers on genealogy and local history of the area. The coming programs for 2023 are located on the Hartford Public Library website or email hartfordlib@yahoo.com. We are looking forward to offering new literacy programs for children and educational and entertaining programs for adults and families. We appreciate the support for our community and welcome your suggestions to better serve the needs of the community.

Home of the Van Buren Regional Genealogical Society

The Van Buren Regional Genealogical Society Genealogy Room is a non-circulating book and manuscript collection and is available to the public during regular library hours. Visitors are required to register at the circulation desk. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME**



Winter Wonders

Winter is in full swing and the library continues to be a place for everyone to keep busy for this cold weather season. Each **Monday at 2pm** the Friends of the Library will host free bingo and at 6pm join us for Hartford Cardio Drumming. On the second and fourth Wed. of each month join us for Family Links Playtime @ 11am. On **Jan. 11, 2023 @ 4pm** drop by the library to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. and make an "I Have a Dream" craft.

On **Feb. 1, 2023** from 4pm-5pm the library will have an indoor snowball competition. Celebrate Valentine's Day with us on **Feb. 14, 2023** from 3:30pm-4:30pm with cookie decorating. Join us for Lego week Feb. 20th-25th. On display in the Community Room will be giant Lego display presented by the West Michigan Lego Users Group. Visit anytime during regular library hours. Also, on Feb. 20th-24th from 4pm-5pm, we will have a Lego

competition. Choose from one of our options to build your Lego creation for a chance to win a prize. On Feb. 24th @ 4pm the prizes will be awarded. The library offers limited free tax form printing **Feb. 1st - April 15th**. **Reminder:** Please check our Facebook page for weather related cancelations and closings.



Spring Surprises

March is National Reading Month. Participate in the Hartford Library Reading Challenge by reading five books from the Hartford Library between **March 1st and March 31st** for a chance to win a \$50 - Dollar General gift card. The challenge is open to all ages 1-101. When you finish reading five books, your name goes in the drawing box. Children from

pre-school through first grade can enter for a prize every time someone reads five a books to them. You can enter the drawing as many times as you would like. Join us on student half days **2/15, 3/8 & 4/19 from 2pm-4pm** for Lego creating & a craft. **March 31st** the library will have a Lego competition from

11am-4pm and STEM project from 1pm-4pm. Spring break is **April 3rd-7th**. The library will have activities throughout each day. •At 11am—Story time •From 10am-2pm—Lego build •At 2pm—Free movie and popcorn.



LOOK WHAT IS FREE AT YOUR LIBRARY!

You can access all of these free services and more through links on our website:

www.hartfordpl.michlibrary.org

hoopla Instantly borrow free digital movies, music, eBooks and more, 24/7 with your library card.

OverDrive Southwest Michigan Digital Library is your 24/7 library. Download e-books, audio books and videos for free.

Mel The Inter-Library Loan is referred to as MelCat. It is a statewide network of Michigan libraries sharing books, DVDs, Music and more with each other. Patrons can submit requests at the local Library or through their own computer with "MelCat" or mel.org.

Hartford Day Spring Newspaper Archives 1877-1972 Follow the link on our website to search the "Hartford Day Spring Newspaper" 1887-1972. Find obituaries and old news articles from the past. Enjoy a trip down memory lane or learn more about the history of our area.

Computer Lab All are welcome to the computer lab at Hartford Public Library. We have 16 public access computers. It is free to use the computers and they are open to the public. Children under 18 years old will need a signed parent permission slip to use our computers. All of our computers have printing capabilities. There is a fee for printing from computers: 20¢ for black and white and 50¢ for color. You can ask a librarian for a list of current internet policies.

January 2023					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	5	6	7
9 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	10 Library Board Meeting @ 7pm	11 Family Links Playtime@ 11am	12	13	14
16 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm Lego Build 4pm-6pm	17	18 Lego Build & Craft 2pm-4pm Book Club @ 2pm	19	20	21
23 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	24	25 Family Links Playtime@ 11am	26	27	28
February 2023					
30 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	31 Friends of the Library Meeting @ 4pm	1 Indoor Snowball Competition 4pm-5pm	2	3	4
6 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	7	8 Family Links Playtime@ 11am	9	10	11
13 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	14 Valentine Cookie Decorating 3:30pm-4:30pm Library Board Meeting @ 7pm	15 Lego Build & Craft 2pm-4pm Book Club @ 2pm	16	17	18
20 Giant Lego Display Lego Build Competition 4pm-5pm	21 Giant Lego Display Lego Build Competition 4pm-5pm	22 Giant Lego Display Family Links Playtime@ 11am Lego Build Competition 4pm-5pm	23 Giant Lego Display Lego Build Competition 4pm-5pm	24 Giant Lego Display Lego Build Competition 4pm-5pm	25 Giant Lego Display
March 2023					
27 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	28 Friends of the Library Meeting @ 4pm	1 March Reading Challenge March 1st—31st	2	3 Lego Creating & Craft 1pm-3pm	4
6 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	7	8 Family Links Playtime@ 11am Lego Creating & Craft 2pm-4pm	9	10	11
13 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	14 Library Board Meeting @ 7pm	15 Book Club @ 2pm	16	17	18
20 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm Lego Build 4pm-6pm	21	22 Family Links Playtime@ 11am	23	24	25
27 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	28 Friends of the Library Meeting @ 4pm	29	30	31 Lego Competition 11am-4pm STEM Projects 1pm-4pm	
April 2023					
					1
3 Story time @ 11am Lego Build 10am-2pm Movie @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	4 Story time @ 11am Lego Build 10am-2pm Movie @ 2pm	5 Story time @ 11am Lego Build 10am-2pm Movie @ 2pm	6 Story time @ 11am Lego Build 10am-2pm Movie @ 2pm	7 Story time @ 11am Lego Build 10am-2pm Movie @ 2pm	8
10 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	11 Library Board Meeting @ 7pm	12 Family Links Playtime@ 11am	13	14	15
17 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm Lego Build 4pm-6pm	18	19 Book Club @ 2pm Lego Build & Craft 2pm-4pm	20	21	22
24 FOTL Bingo @ 2pm Cardio Drumming @ 6pm	25 Friends of the Library Meeting @ 4pm	26 Family Links Playtime@ 11am	27	28	29