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BIG CHANGES COMING!

We have all become adept at adapting to change in the past year, and the library is no different. Covid affected how the building looks and how we serve our patrons. Service to our community is our top priority, and we strive to do our best no matter what challenges come our way. That's why we are embarking on building construction this month—so we can continue to provide the best activities and services possible to you! Once again things will start to look different around here, but this time it's planned and we're excited about it! We break ground on an addition to the east side of the building, replacing the glass-wall atrium with additional footage in both main and children's departments. This will enable better flow in each area, allow for better staff work spaces, and give us more room to allow for study, business work, and small gatherings to take place.







This sketch-up, looking from the top down, shows the addition on the main floor opposite the main entrance to the east of the stacks. Study tables, a small meeting table, and a lounge area will bask in the light of the large floor-to-ceiling window. The Children's Department below will be expanding by the same amount of space, and will open out to a beautiful new entryway into the nature park in our backyard, which will also continue with renovations this year. We are looking forward to being an important part of community gatherings in the space from the park to the new amphitheatre just south of us to the courthouse greenway. Downtown Hartford City is shaping up nicely, and we are proud to be part of it!



Please note that the **PARK IS CLOSED** until further notice due to construction.



HARTFORD CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT APRIL 2021

Please note that the **PARK IS CLOSED** until further notice due to construction.

VIRTUAL STORY TIMES

Join Miss Amy on Wednesdays for story time! <u>A Visit with Ms. Amy</u> Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. <u>A Bedtime Story with Ms. Amy</u> Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. See our Facebook page to follow along.

1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

Do you have or know a child ages birth-5? We invite you to sign up for this special program to foster a love of reading and relationship! Upon signing up, the parent/caretaker receives a free canvas book bag and a folder for recording books read. **Each 100 books** earns a small prize for the child. When 500 books have been read the child may choose a new book to keep. Upon completion of the 1,000 books, adults receive a nice book bag and the child may choose another book to keep.

According to https://www.nalibali.org/how-to/why-literacy-important-children, literacy allows children (and all) to learn from others; explore what we think, feel, and know; learn to use language in new and different ways; discover how other people live; and discover different ways of seeing the world.

What are other ways you can encourage literacy? Role model reading and writing in your own life; provide books and writing materials; offer to help children as they learn to read and write; show an interest in what others are reading and writing, and read aloud to them as much as possible!

SILVER LINING BOOK CLUB

Parents who read five (5) books to their children will earn a ticket to shop at the silver Lining Opportunity Store at the Presbyterian Church across the street, held the second Saturday of each month. There are many useful items available for children that parents may buy with their tickets!

THE AWESOME LIT SOCIETY

For 4th—8th graders

Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

Opal returns home with a stray dog she names Winn-Dixie, which changes things in Naomi, Florida. Winn-Dixie helps Opal make friends with the endearing outcasts of Naomi, including a woman rumored to be a witch; the elderly town

librarian, who gives Opal candies that taste like melancholy; and an ex-con musician who runs the local pet store. Through these new friendships, Opal learns not to judge people—including the mother who abandoned her—for their past

mistakes, but to appreciate people for who they are in the present. These unassuming characters become a dependable community in which everybody has a sorrow to let go of and a story to tell.

We will be having craft kits to pick up at the library in the children's department, 9-5:30pm, to use during our Zoom meetings. Please pick up prior to the meetings when prompted in the group. We won't have craft kits for each week because we have other activities such as online puzzles, escape rooms, singing/music and more!



TO JOIN US: This is a social book club for 4th-8th graders. Parents may obtain access to our group, **The Awesome LIT Society FB Group**, at: <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/567764023845310/</u>, and provide answers to the questions. This is a private group due to the privacy requirements of minors attending the Zoom meetings (a link is provided inside the group). A library card in good standing with HCPL is required.

We meet on Thursdays 6:30-7:30, at the Zoom link provided in the group. *We will not be meeting on Thursday, April 29, 2021.