

# BRANCH *Out*

Lansing Public Library Newsletter

**OUR BIGGEST YOUTH  
EVENT OF THE YEAR!**

**THE PLANT EXCHANGE &  
SEED LIBRARY ARE BACK**

**CLOSING OUT OUR  
LIBRARY@NITE  
CONCERT SERIES**



# THE SCOOP

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The Seed Library is sprouting soon! Starting March 2, pick up free seeds to grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers at home. Open to gardeners of all experience levels, the Seed Library supports learning, sustainability, and community—just plant, grow, and enjoy.

## Snip & Swap

### The Plant Exchange is BACK!

For the month of March, bring in your extra plant cuttings, swap them for something new, and leave with a fresh green buddy to help your space bloom. Whether you're a seasoned plant parent or just starting out, this is your chance to grow, trade, and connect with fellow plant lovers.



Celebrate **NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK**

**April 19-25, 2026**

# IN THE COMMUNITY



## Calumet Bakery

18349 Torrence Ave

Feb 5 & 26 | Mar 5 & 26 | April 2 & 23  
11am-12pm

## Kdulche Café

3521 Ridge Rd

Feb 5 & 26 | Mar 5 & 26 | April 2 & 23  
12:15-1:15pm

## Village Hall

3141 Ridge Rd

Feb 19, Mar 19, Apr 16  
10am-12pm

**The library is popping up around town!**

### What to expect:

- Popular titles of books to check out
- Apply for your full access library card
- Info on resources and services
- Event calendars
- Occasional free book giveaways!



## Do you know about Community Roots?

Lansing residents benefit from exclusive savings at local businesses - just for having a library card!



If you are a local business owner interested in participating in the Community Roots Program, contact our Outreach Department at: [eventsdesk@lansingpl.org](mailto:eventsdesk@lansingpl.org).

## Village of Lansing Cleanup Day

You can catch staff from the library participating in the 17th Annual Village of Lansing Cleanup Day to keep our community clean.

**April 18 | 10am**

The Village is always looking for volunteers, check out their website for more information on how to register.



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

*Delve into Black History Month through an immersive experience of cuisine, culture, and the arts that will captivate you.*

## **Library@Nite: Mike Dangerous Orchestra**

**Fri, Feb 6 | 6:30pm | Drop-in**

Commemorate the start of Black History Month with an evening of amazing music, cuisine, and community engagement! Doors open at 6:00pm – show starts at 6:30pm.

## **All the People Mural**

**Sat, Feb 7 | 12pm | Register**

Join the community and pitch in to create a beautiful painted mural for Black History Month! This mural will become part of the library for the community to view and enjoy.

## **Wood Burning Bookmarks**

**Sat, Feb 21 | 2pm | Register**

Join our workshop to create unique wooden bookmarks using wood-burning tools and templates. All supplies provided. Make a personalized keepsake to honor history.

## **Black History Month Book Club (Teen Program)**

**Thu, Feb 26 | 4pm | Register**

Come chat about your favorite black characters and black led stories! Stick around to get some new book recommendations.

## **Library Cinema: Black Barbie**

**Fri, Feb 27 | 11am | Drop-in**

When the filmmaker's 83-year-old aunt Beulah Mae Mitchell asks, "Why not make a Barbie that looks like me?" – the story of the first Black Barbie begins.



# PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

## FAMILY EVENT

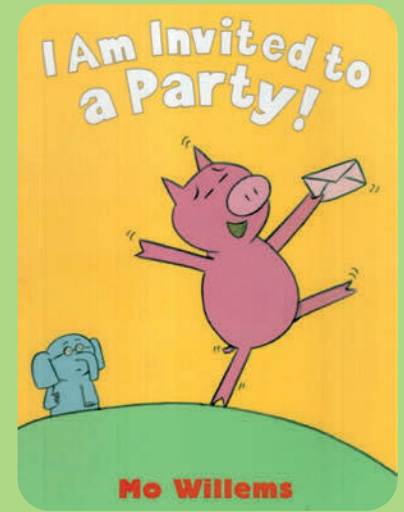
### Read Across America with Elephant, Piggie, and Friends

Sat, Mar 7 | 6pm | *Register*

This lively literacy celebration will feature interactive read-alouds, games, snacks, and unforgettable photo ops. This high-energy event brings stories to life and inspires young readers to explore, play, and imagine together.

### Don't miss our largest youth service event of the year!

*Family events are designed for children and accompanying adults.*



## ALL AGES

### Sensory Friendly Browsing Hour

Sat: Feb 21, Mar 21 & Apr 18

9:30-10:30am | *Drop-in*

People with sensory sensitivities can enjoy the use of the Library and its services in a safe and welcoming environment.

Las personas con sensibilidad sensorial pueden disfrutar de la biblioteca y sus servicios en un ambiente seguro y acogedor.

We'll provide optional sensory supports - including noise-canceling headphones, lap-sized weighted blankets, tactile fidget items and more - for anyone who might need them.



### Prevent Child Abuse Awareness Month

Wed, Apr 1 | 9:30am | *Library Stage*

The Library and Lansing's Human Relation Commission will have a presentation on Child Abuse Awareness Month and what you can do to help the community.



FEB 6  
BLACK HISTORY  
MONTH CELEBRATION

*Mike Dangeroux Orchestra*



MAR 6  
SMALL BATCH

*Irish Folk Band*



# YOUTH & TEENS

## Birth - PreK

### Music and Movement

Every Tues | 11am | *Register*

Reading to babies is an important foundation for early literacy skills! There will be books, movement, songs, and more. *Ages 0-24 months.*

### Family Storytime

Every Wed | 10am | *Register*

Enjoy books, movement, songs, and more! Kids will learn important things like motor and literacy skills, finishing with a make & take craft for your child. *Ages 2-5.*

### Move with Sol

Wed: Feb 4, Mar 4 & Apr 8 | 11am | *Register*

Let's burn some energy! Follow along as we have fun exercising to kid-friendly YouTube dance videos.

### Kindergarten Ready

Every Mon: Feb 23 until Apr 27 | 9:45am | *Register*

Open to children of Lansing residents, this free 10-week program will help the whole family get ready for kindergarten. Kindergarten Ready is open to 4-year-olds who are starting kindergarten within a year. Signing up for this program requires a 10-week commitment. In-person registration is required. Parents are required to stay.

## Grades K-5

### LEGO Build & Play

Sat: Feb 7, Mar 7 & Apr 11 | 1pm | *Register*

Are you a master lego builder, lego artist, or just a novice? All are welcome here. Join us once a month to create masterpieces and make new lego-loving friends!

### My Sweet, Sweet Valentine...Cover

Tue, Feb 10 | 6pm | *Register*

Love is in the air and all around us everywhere. An hour long craft and yap session about our favorite books, movies, and songs. We will craft a Valentine's Day book cover with felt and beads!

### Tissue Paper Flower Craft

Thu, Feb 12 | 6pm | *Register*

Make a tissue paper flower that you can wear as a hair accessory. All materials provided.

### Chinese Lunar New Year

Wed, Feb 18 | 6pm | *Register*

Panda's Let's Explore! Lunar New Year program is a fun and educational way to introduce children to the rich history and traditions of Lunar New Year.

### ArtBots

Wed, Mar 4 | 6pm | *Register*

Visit Ms. Kim to build, decorate, and take home your own robot that draws for you!

### Faux Stained Glass

Tue, Mar 17 | 6pm | *Register*

A fun and engaging program creating faux stained glass using sharpies and aluminum foil. Come and have fun creating your own master artwork!



# Grades 6 - 12

## Teen Volunteer Orientation

**Thu: Feb 5, Mar 5 & Apr 2 | 4pm | Register**  
Need volunteer hours? Want to help the library out during special events and programs? Come to TVO to apply and learn the basics about volunteering. All teen volunteers must complete Teen Volunteer Orientation in order to be eligible to volunteer with the Lansing Public Library.

## International Tasters Club

**Wed: Feb 11, Mar 11 & Apr 8 | 4pm | Register**  
Explore the world through your taste buds as we taste-test a selection of yummy snacks from different countries and learn fun facts about their origins.

## Anime Club

**Thu: Feb 19, Mar 19 & Apr 16 | 4pm | Register**  
Spring is peeking around the corner... let's hang out and learn about cherry blossoms, festivals, and springtime in Japan!

## Black History Month Book Club

**Thu, Feb 26 | 4pm | Register**  
Come chat about your favorite black characters and black led stories! Stick around to get some new book recommendations.

## Bling It On!

**Tue, Mar 3 | 4pm | Register**  
Bling, bling, and more bling! Bring an item that you have always wanted to add a touch of sparkle to. During Bling It On! we will be bedazzling different items. Life is fun and full of sparkle, our belongings should have that sparkle too!

## Spring Fling Karaoke Party

**Thu, Mar 26 | 4pm | Register**  
Sing those winter blues away! Try out the karaoke machine from our Library of Things.

## A Wonderful Tea Party

**Mon, Apr 13 | 4pm | Register**  
Join us for a wonderful and whimsical tea party! We will be learning about the origins of tea from all over the world and also have a tea taste test!

# Family Events

*These programs are designed for children and accompanying adults.*

## Family Bingo/Loteria

**Wed: Feb 25, Mar 25 & Apr 22 | 5:30pm | Register**  
Head to the library for a fun night of family BINGO/LOTERIA (Mexican BINGO) and a chance to win a tasty treat!

¡Diríjase a la biblioteca para una noche divertida de BINGO/LOTERIA familiar y la oportunidad de ganarse algo delicioso!

## Read Across America with Elephant, Piggie, and Friends

**Sat, Mar 7 | 6pm | Register**  
This lively literacy celebration will feature interactive read-alouds, games, snacks, and unforgettable photo ops. This high-energy event brings stories to life and inspires young readers to explore, play, and imagine together.

## Magic for Muggles

**Sat, Apr 25 | 2pm | Register**  
Have you been captivated by the uber magical school of Hogwarts? Do you wish for the sorting hat to be placed upon your head? For fans of Harry Potter, join us at the library for a magical afternoon of trivia, crafts, and more!

## Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros (Children's Day/Book Day)

**Thu, Apr 30 | All Day | Register**  
¡Celebremos el Día del Niño! Join us for a joyful day full of stories, crafts, music, and family fun at the library! Ages 0-12

# ADULTS

## Coffee Break Café

Every Tues | 10:30am | Drop-in

Coffee Break Café is Lansing Public Library's Micro Café that produces freshly made coffee every right in front of you. Join us in conversation or grab a delicious cup of coffee on the go! *Not in session March 10 & 17th.*

## Tai-Chi & Gentle Meditation

Every Tues | 1pm | Drop-in

Instructor, *Brian Thompson*, from *BNEW4LIFE*, teaches Tai-Chi & Meditation to help stay focused, alert, and pain-free! *Not in session March 10 & 17.*

## Spice Club

Mon: Feb 2, Mar 2, Apr 6 | Register

Spice up your cooking! Register each month to receive a sample of a new spice along with the spice's history and delicious recipes.

## Senior Bingo!

Fri: Feb 6, Mar 6 & Apr 3 | 11am | Drop-in

This is the perfect opportunity for you to socialize and win some prizes!

## The Soda Shop: Valentine Edition

Mon, Feb 9 | 5:30pm | Register

Harken back to yesteryear as we make simply delicious sodas and punches! Experience classic drinks with a pink and red twist! Includes a small snack and recipes to repeat at home!

## Card Makers

Wed, Feb 11 | 1pm | Register

Interested in making your own card for Valentine's Day? Join an expert card maker and learn how to make your own beautifully crafted card.

## Trivial Matters!

Wed: Feb 11, Mar 4, Apr 8 | 6pm | Register

Grab your squad or just yourself and join us each month as we challenge your brain with different themes and subjects. Snacks will be provided.

## Crafty Connections

Fri: Feb 13 & Apr 10 | 12pm | Register

Enjoy a variety of different simple craft stations for a self-paced, social afternoon! *NEW: This program now requires registration.*

## Diamond Art Bar

Fri: Feb 20 & Apr 17 | 12pm | Register

Come join us at the Diamond Art Bar, where you'll be able to select small premade designs, and be able to complete them within one hour or less!

## Spring Wreath Making Workshop

Tue, Mar 3 | 5pm | Register

Join us at the library where you can create your own beautiful, custom seasonal wreath. All materials and guidance are provided, just bring your creativity and leave with a stunning handmade decoration.

## All the People Mural - Women's History

Sat, Mar 7 | 12pm | Register

Join the community and pitch in to create a beautiful painted mural for Women's History Month! This mural will become part of the library for the community to view and enjoy.

## Senior Breakfast

Sat, Mar 21 | 10am | Register

Join the library in the morning for a special breakfast from a local restaurant! Join in conversation with other breakfast lovers!

## RTA: Your Guide to Travel Independence

Mon, Mar 30 | 1pm | Drop-in

The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) will be providing a presentation on transit programs for older adults or people with disabilities that are looking for or considering transit through accessible options with CTA, Metra, and Pace. Please join us to learn all about some transit options that can assist with your travels.

## ChatGPT/AI: For the Curious & the Clueless

Tue, Apr 7 | 4pm | Drop-in

Tue, Apr 28 | 5pm | Drop-in

How to save time, work smarter, and stay ahead using ChatGPT.

# CRAFT MASTERS

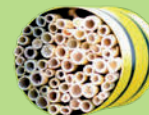
Craft Masters is designed for makers who want the time, tools, and guidance to complete a full craft project and take it home.



## Acrylic Book Vases

Wed, Feb 18 | 6pm | Register

Decorate a modern acrylic vase shaped like a book that blends seamlessly into any decor.



## Bee Houses

Wed, Apr 15 | 6pm | Register

Create a bee sanctuary for your home that is both cute and functional.

*\*Exact project may vary*

# COMPUTER & TECHNOLOGY

## 1:1 Tech Help | By Appointment

Book an Info Services staff member for 30 minutes of one-on-one technology assistance! Scheduling is dependent upon the topic and staff availability. Request an appointment in-person at the Info Desk, by phone at (708) 474-2447 ext. 109, or by email to infodesk@lansingpl.org.

*\*Please note this service is not intended as a replacement for device support, i.e. Geek Squad. Staff are not certified to troubleshoot or repair devices, but may only assist patrons with basic device usage and instruction of library applications.\**

## Cloud Storage

**Tue: Feb 10, Mar 10, & Apr 14 | 10am** | Register  
Learn how to save all your files without a flash drive using cloud based storage services from Google Drive to Microsoft OneDrive and more.

## AI For Humans

**Mon, Feb 16 | 10am** | Register  
**Wed, Mar 11 | 6pm** | Register  
Are the robots taking over everything? Not so fast! Come get a crash course in what AI is, what it can do (and not do) and simple tips to keep yourself safe in the process.

## Computer Basics Series

**Wed: Mar 4, 11, 18 | 1pm** | Register  
Learn the essential skills needed to confidently use a computer in this beginner-friendly class series.

\*Each session covers a key topic—using a mouse and keyboard, navigating the internet, creating and saving documents, understanding email, and staying safe online. No prior experience is required. Join us to build your digital confidence one step at a time!

# BOOK DISCUSSIONS

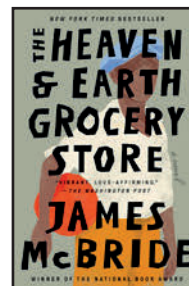


## BYO Book Club

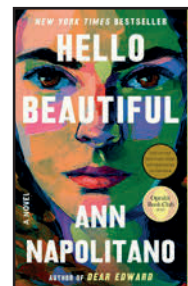
**Mon: Feb 23, Mar 23 & Apr 20 6:30pm** | Drop-in  
Have a favorite book or two you'd like to share with fellow readers and librarians? Come tell us about them, get the scoop on new and upcoming releases, and discover recommendations for what to read next!

## BOOK BANTER

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday | 6pm** | Drop-in



FEB 5



MAR 5



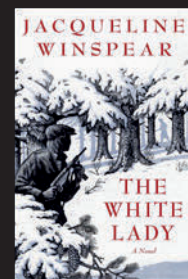
APR 2



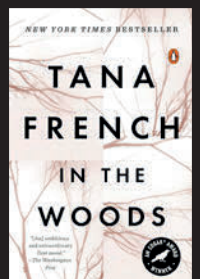
**2<sup>nd</sup> Friday | 10am** | Drop-in



FEB 13



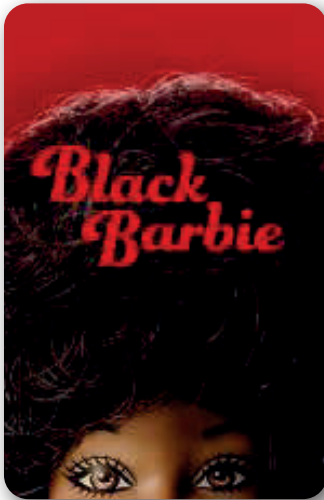
MAR 13



APR 10

# ADULTS

Lansing Library Cinema provides free movies, drinks, and treats! Come see newly released flicks, retro reels, and movies made from books with us on our 84in 4k TV.



**Black Barbie**  
Fri, Feb 27 | 11am | *Drop-in*



**Wizard of Oz**  
Fri, Mar 27 | 11am | *Drop-in*



**Wicked for Good**  
Fri, Apr 24 | 11am | *Drop-in*

First 50 patrons will be entered into a prize drawing!

## HORROR MOVIE CLUB

Welcome to the club! Once the library closes, the library stage transforms into a private theater for those brave enough to enter. Enjoy classic movie treats while watching some of the best horror flicks. Feel free to bring your own blankets, camping chairs for comfort, and friends for support as we'll be locked in! Doors open at 6:30pm – movie starts at 7pm.



**Weapons**  
Fri, Mar 13 | 7pm | *Register*



**Good Boy**  
Fri, Apr 10 | 7pm | *Register*



**Homebound delivery provides library services to Lansing cardholders of all ages who are unable to physically come to the library.**

- A temporary hardship due to a major illness
- An ongoing need due to physical abilities
- A long-term illness
- Homebound seniors
- New parents

**Lansing homebound residents can call the library to arrange an in-home visit to get a library card - or register online anytime.**

**More info: (708) 474-2447 ext. 109**

**GET YOUR LIBRARY CARD**

Still need to get your library card? You can **apply online** from the comfort of your home!

Once approved, you will receive your **FULL ACCESS** card via email and can instantly unlock all of the benefits your library card offers.

*Want a physical card? Stop into the library!*



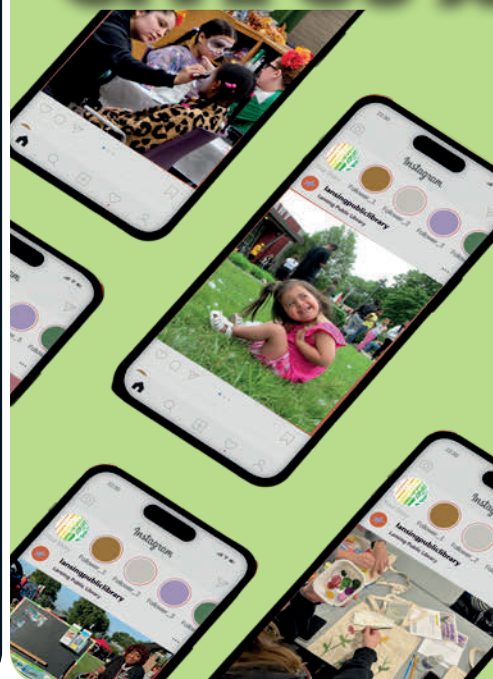
[swanlibraries.net/get-a-card](http://swanlibraries.net/get-a-card)

**N NORTHSTAR**

Not sure where your technology skills stand? The library now offers a **free technology skills self-check** through Northstar Digital Literacy, made possible by a grant from AgeOptions. These quick, self-paced tools help you identify your skills and feel more confident using computers, the internet, and everyday technology.

**Learn more here:**  
<https://bit.ly/4qjx4TO>

**GIVE US A FOLLOW!**



Never miss a moment of fun, helpful, and behind-the-scenes posts we share on social media. Scan the QR code and start following us on Facebook and Instagram today!



[q.me-qr.com//getconnected](http://q.me-qr.com//getconnected)

## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday: **9am-8pm**  
Friday & Saturday: **9am-5pm**  
Sunday: **CLOSED**

## DIRECTOR

Lisa Korajczyk

## LIBRARY BOARD

Sharon Novak, *President*  
Jeri Villa, *Vice President*  
Steven Carr, *Secretary*  
Mozella Brown, *Treasurer*  
Yvette Farmer, *Trustee*  
Afenya Montgomery, *Trustee*

Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6pm in the Community Room.

## DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

Any person needing accommodations for a disability in order to access the benefits of the Library's services, programs, or activities under the American with Disabilities Act should contact Director Lisa Korajczyk by phone 708-474-2447 or in writing, not less than five (5) business days prior to the event.

## CONTACT INFO

2750 Indiana Avenue  
Lansing, IL 60438  
Phone: 708-474-2447  
lansingpl.org



Please visit the Library or our website for updates to program information. Visit our website to subscribe to our eNewsletter.

**IMAGE RELEASE:** All program registrants and participants must permit to the taking and use of their image in future library publications, both printed and electronic.

Designer/Editor: Bre Podgorski



**Friends Meeting**  
Mon, Mar 9 | 6:30pm | Brick Room  
Please come check us out at our meetings. We're a fun bunch!  
ALL ARE WELCOME.



**Book Sale**  
2nd Saturday of Each Month  
Feb 14 | Mar 14 | Apr 11  
9:30am-1:30pm

*The Book Sale is cash only.*



**Raffle Baskets**  
\$5/1 ticket or \$10/3 tickets

**Valentine's Day Basket**  
Drawing: Feb 2

**Black History Month Basket**  
Drawing: Feb 28

**Mother's Day Basket**  
Tickets Available: Mar 13

## LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Bessie Coleman: Aviation Pioneer**  
Mon, Feb 23 | 6pm | Community Room

Local historian Dan Cuthbert explores the life and legacy of African American aviation pioneer, Bessie Coleman, a trailblazing figure who broke barriers in aviation history.



**Women's Baseball in the Midwest**  
Mon, Mar 23 | 6pm | Community Room

Illinois Humanities Road Scholar Anna Sielaff examines Illinois's role in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League and the history and lasting impact of women in sport.



**History of Lansing Baseball**  
Mon, Apr 27 | 6 PM | Community Room

Ken Reynolds and longtime Lansing residents share stories and memories of the teams and leagues that shaped Lansing's baseball history.



**Lansing Fallen Heroes Exhibit**  
April 8-30

The Lansing Historical Society Museum presents its annual exhibit honoring Ken Novak, Lansing's only police officer killed in the line of duty, and Phil Martini, Lansing's only Iraq War casualty.

Wed, Apr 8 | 9am-7:30pm  
Thursdays | 5:30-7:30pm  
Saturdays | 11am-1pm