



**HAPPY NEW YEAR  
MAY YOUR 2021 BE BETTER THAN 2020**

119 North Fourth Street  
West Branch Michigan  
48861

p: 989.345.2235  
f: 989.345.8735

**HOURS**

Monday/Wednesday  
10am-7pm  
Tues/Thurs/Friday  
10am-5pm  
Sat  
10am-2pm

**STAFF**

**Director**

John Sheridan

**Technical Processor**

Amy Winter

**Program Manager**

Lori Rinaldi

**Circulation Staff**

Amanda Barratt

Isabel H.

Debbie Kania

Toni Wiles

Valerie H.

**—BOOK NOOK—**

Used & collectable books  
for sale.

**Hours**

Monday-Friday  
10am-4pm  
Saturday  
10am-2pm

100% volunteer staffed—  
please call ahead for exact  
hours



**PATRON SAFETY GUIDELINES**  
Patrons experiencing infectious diseases or their symptoms, such as the flu, may not enter the library until you have been at least 24 hours with a temperature below 100 F. Please maintain a distance of 6 feet between people. No food or beverage is allowed unless necessary for medical reasons. Please be aware that if the state puts restrictions on libraries, we may need to cancel events.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
West Branch District Library employee Amanda Barratt whose novel *My Dearest Dietrich: A novel of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Lost Love* was a finalist in the Historical category of the 2020 Christy Awards. *My Dearest Dietrich* is available at the library, along with many of Amanda's other titles.

Let's Discuss...

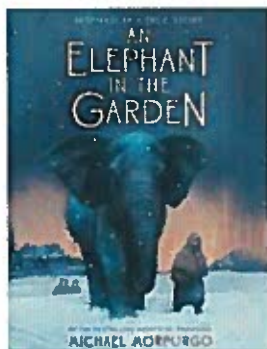


Thursday, January 14th  
2-3pm

**The Perfect Girlfriend  
By: Karen Hamilton**

Meet Juliette. She's intelligent, driven, committed - and in love. Juliette loves Nate. They are meant to be. She is the perfect girlfriend. True love hurts, but Juliette knows it's worth all the pain.

Let's Discuss  
Jr.



MONDAY, JANUARY 4TH  
5:30-6:30PM  
**An Elephant in the Garden  
By: Jacqueline Woodson**

Lizzie & Karl's mother is a zoo keeper; the family has become attached to an orphaned elephant named Marlene, who will be destroyed as a precautionary measure so she and the other animals don't run wild should the zoo be hit by bombs. The family persuades the zoo director to let Marlene stay in their garden instead. When the city is bombed, the family flees with thousands of others, but how can they walk the same route when they have an elephant in tow, and keep themselves safe?



westbranchlibrary.org



facebook.com/westbranchlibrary

We are open and ready to serve you!



We have developed a disinfecting protocol in accordance with CDC guidelines and recommendations.

Protocol Actions Include:

1. All returned materials are disinfected with UV light before being returned to the library collection.
2. All staff wearing masks.
3. Frequent sanitizing of touched surfaces.
4. Social distancing marked on the floor.
5. Water fountain is turned off.



Our 2020 Silent Auction was a GREAT success!! The library would like to thank all of the people who bid on our items and congratulations to those who won! A Very special Thank You to all of the local businesses and people who donated such lovely items for the Auction!

**Let's Discuss** Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks  
By: Karen Hamilton  
Thursday, February 11, 2021 2-3pm

Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor black tobacco farmer whose cells-taken without her knowledge in 1951-became one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, in vitro fertilization, and more. Henrietta's cells have been bought and sold by the billions, yet she remains virtually unknown, and her family can't afford health insurance.



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**January 2021**

**December 31-January 2:** Closed

Have a Happy and Safe New Year!

**January 4:** Library Board of Trustees Meeting, 5pm; Let's Discuss Jr., "An Elephant in the Garden" by Jacqueline Woodson, 5:30-6:30pm

**January 5:** Tech Tuesday, 1-4pm

**January 12:** Tech Tuesday, 1-4pm

**January 14:** Let's Discuss, "The Perfect Girlfriend" by Karen Hamilton, 2-3pm

**January 19:** Tech Tuesday, 1-4pm

**January 26:** Tech Tuesday, 1-4pm

*The BOOK NOOK*

*- January Sale -*

*6 Romance Books for \$1*

The Book Nook does not accept encyclopedias, Readers Digest Condensed Books, text books, dictionaries, old magazines, VHS tapes or books in need of repair.

If you have some extra time, visit the Book Nook and speak with a volunteer for more information. There's always room for one more!

**Let's Discuss** The Wednesday Wars  
By: Gary D. Schmidt  
Monday, February 1, 2021  
5:30-6:30pm

A wonderfully witty and compelling story about a teenage boy's mishaps and adventures over the course of the 1967-68 school year in Long Island, New York.

Meet Holling Hoodhood, a seventh-grader at Camillo Junior High, who must spend Wednesday afternoons with his teacher, Mrs. Baker, while the rest of the class has religious instruction. Mrs. Baker doesn't like Holling-he's sure of it. Why else would she make him read the plays of William Shakespeare outside class? But everyone has bigger things to worry about, like Vietnam.

**"READING IS DREAMING WITH EYES OPEN"**

-SAKI