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For Immediate Release

Hartford Public Library Opens Mark Twain Branch At West Middle School

February 8, 2017 — The Mark Twain Branch of Hartford Public Library is moving to West Middle Community School at 44 Niles St., and will begin service on March 1.

Hartford Public Library operations at Hartford Public, 55 Forest St., will cease Feb. 24. Some of the Mark Twain Branch collection will remain at the HPHS. Other materials are being moved to West Middle. The after-school activities of the Owl Enrichment Center at Hartford Public High School will continue at the High School.

General public service hours of operation for the Mark Twain Branch at West Middle will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 1 to 6 pm.

West Middle serves prekindergarten through 8th grade students. When renovations begin in 2013, relocation of the Mark Twain branch was announced. Other new features at the school include a rooftop playground, health wing, and gym with retractable risers.

The following Hartford Public Library programs are currently scheduled:

Spanish Language Classes (for beginners) will be held for 10 weeks on Wednesdays from 6 to 7:30 pm, from March 15th through May 10th. These classes will cover basic Spanish grammar in a step-by-step approach, allowing students to communicate in Spanish almost immediately. Classroom instruction will transition to the online program “Transparent Language” for continued study.

Citizenship Test Preparation Class (for beginner English speakers) will run Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 – 7:30 pm from March 15th through May 31st. Each class will focus on many of the 100 citizenship test civics questions. We encourage the community to join us for these lively interactive activities and discussions. The classes are open for U.S. citizens who want to improve their own knowledge of U.S. Civics or enhance their skills to tutor new arrivals on their paths to citizenship.

Read2Succeed sessions will run Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 3:30 – 7:30pm, beginning March 15th. The classes are a combination of one-on-one instruction with a teacher and computer-based reinforcement activities for emergent readers.

Chief Teale's 'Tools of Learning' Classes will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 6 pm, from March 7th through April 13th. Tutorials are offered on Wednesdays from 5 to 6 pm during the eight-week period. Charles A. Teale Sr., former Chief of the Hartford Fire Dept., developed this successful program that teaches students how to learn.

ABOUT HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

As a finalist for the 2013 and 2014 National Medal from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, Hartford Public Library has been recognized as national leader in redefining the urban public library in the 21st century as an innovative and stimulating place that provides free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. In 2015-16, the 10 locations of the Hartford Public Library counted 850,000 visits, circulated 408,972 items and had 71,059 registered borrowers. We serve adults, children and families seeking early literacy opportunities, work skills training, civic engagement, arts enrichment, and so much more. Please visit www.hplct.org.