

### O C T O B E R 2 0 2 3

# IN THE "SPIRIT" OF HALLOWEEN

Westchester Township History Museum staff are often asked if the Brown Mansion is haunted. While none of the current staff have had any ghostly encounters at the Museum, there are reasons to believe that it *might* be haunted.

Several people who lived or visited here as children claimed to see a ghost sitting on the stairs. The children called the ghost "Ebbie," short for Ebenezer, but as far as we know, there was never anyone named Ebenezer who lived here.

We have also had several ghost hunters come through the Brown Mansion. Many of



George and Charity Brown

these groups have reported electronically recorded sounds that are interpreted to be spirit voices.

If it is haunted, who would be haunting it? It could be the spirits of the people who died here. George Brown, his wife, Charity, and their 19-year-old son, Charles, all died in the house and had their funerals in the parlor. This was common practice in Chesterton until the early 20th century.

When the Brown Mansion was built in 1885, ghost stories, séances, and mediums were popular throughout the U.S. But Halloween was not the time for such things. During the Victorian Era, Christmas was the most popular time to tell ghost stories (think about Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol)*. The Chesterton Tribune even reported on several ghost sightings around the area in the 1890s.

It is possible that the Brown family may have told such stories or held séances in the house. We do not know. Despite ghost hunters' indications that there are spirits here, and former residents reported seeing seeing ghosts, if there *are* ghosts in the house, they leave us alone to do our work.

To learn more about the Brown Mansion's "ghosts," visit the Museum at 700 W. Porter Ave. The Museum is open Weds. 12 – 5 PM and the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, from 12 – 5 PM, or by appointment.

### WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY proudly presents

#### ONLIGHT ONLIGHT

Rated G

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Bring the whole family for movies in the park!

### MONSTERS, INC. October 20 at 6:30 PM

*Hawthorne Park* (immediately following the Porter Park Department's Boo Bash)

### сосо

October 27 at 6 PM Thomas Centennial Park

(immediately following the Duneland Chamber of Commerce's Downtown Trick or Treat event)

Eat, drink, and be scary! Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic and lawn chairs for personal comfort and enjoyment. The Chesterton-Porter Rotary Club will offer free popcorn during the event, and cold drinks will be sold for \$1.00.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 219-926-7696 • WPL.LIB.IN.US

# **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

Shop an assortment of retired technology, including PCs, monitors, 3-D printers, and an electric typewriter. All items are in working condition and sold as-is. A technology expert will be on hand to answer questions. Items are priced to sell, between \$1-\$100. Cash or check only, no refunds or returns. For more information, contact Dan at 219-926-7696.

# OCTOBER 7 9 AM - NOON\* \*Quantities are limited and the sale could end before noon. BAUGHER CENTER

BAUGHER CENTER • 100 W. INDIANA AVE., CHESTERTON, IN • 219-926-7696 • WPL.LIB.IN.US (f)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 2-4 PM

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Children ages 6-12 are invited to the Brown Mansion for some old-fashioned Halloween fun. SCAVENGER HUNT FOR PUMPKINS GAMES & PRIZES

Costumes are encouraged but not required. Parents or guardians must accompany their child(ren).

**Registration** is not required

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# FRIENDS OF The Library Fall Book Sale November Sat. 4 & Sun. 5 9 Am - 4 Pm

### MEMBERS ONLY PREVIEW ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, FROM 4 - 8 PM

**BAUGHER CENTER** 100 W. INDIANA AVE. CHESTERTON, IN 219-926-7696 WPL.LIB.IN.US Join the Friends of the Westchester Public Library for their Fall Book Sale. Books and movies of all genres will be available at low prices.

Membership to the Friends of the Library may be purchased at the Thomas Circulation desk, or at the door the first night of the sale.

Proceeds from the sale are donated to WPL and help fund programs for all ages.



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

# PROGRAMS & CRAFT KITS FOR ADULTS

ULY IMP

× WORKSHOP

# ★ MONDAY, OCTOBER 9 6:30 PM

Looking for a way to let your inner comedian run free? Join us for a night of spontaneous comedy with Matt from Well Suited Improv Theater. Never been on stage? No problem! Beginners and experienced players welcome. For adults ages 18 and up.

# **BAUGHER CENTER**

Registration opens OCTOBER 2 Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.



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# Adult Craft Night: GNOME PUMPKINS

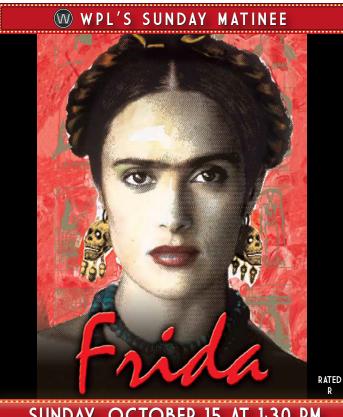
### Wednesday, October 4 6:30-7:30 PM

Create a gnome pumpkin to keep your other garden gnomes company or to add to your seasonal displays. This program is for adults 18 and up.

### **BAUGHER CENTER**

Registration opens SEPTEMBER 27 Register online or call 219-926-9080 to reserve your spot.

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 AT 1:30 PM BAUGHER CENTER 100 W. INDIANA AVENUE, CHESTERTON, IN Hard to the second seco

## BIFOCAL BOOKIES

### *The Fifth Avenue Glamour Girl* by Renee Rosen

In New York City, you can disappear into the crowd. At least that's what Gloria Downing desperately hopes as she tries to reinvent herself after a devastating family scandal. She's ready for a total life makeover and a friend she can lean on—and into her path walks a young, idealistic woman named Estée. Their chance encounter will change Gloria's life forever.



Limited copies are available at Hageman

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 1-2 PM HAGEMAN BRANCH

#### This program is for adults ages 18 and up Registration opens OCTOBER 3 Register online or call 219-926-9080 to reserve your spot.

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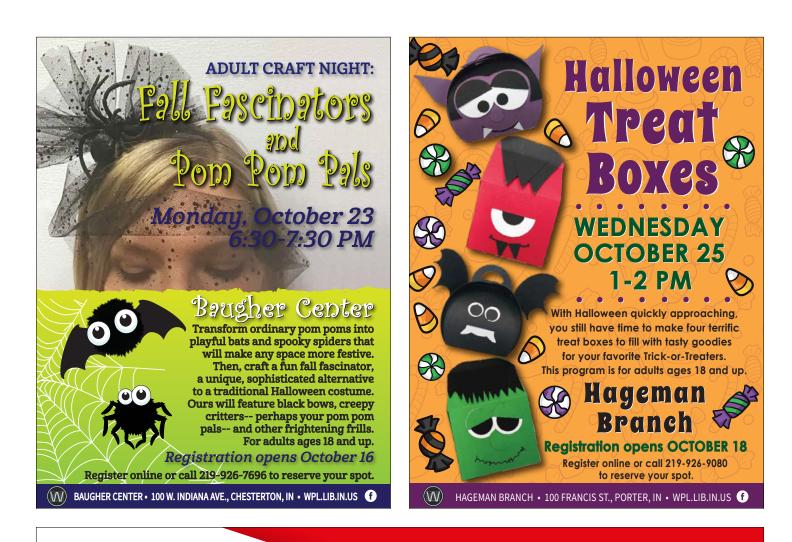


Dress up your door all autumn long with these clever crows. Paint your own wooden crows and star to adorn an adorable autumn grapevine wreath. Cheerful fall ribbon provides a handy hanger. For adults ages 18 and up.

#### **BAUGHER CENTER** Registration opens OCTOBER 11

Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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# WPL BOOK-CLUB KITS



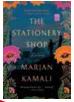
Host your own book club with a kit from Westchester Public Library! Each kit includes 20 copies of the same title, and a list of discussion questions.

Over 30 fiction and non-fiction Book Club Kit titles available to check out.

Create new friendships, strengthen bonds, and learn all sorts of interesting things by sharing a book together.



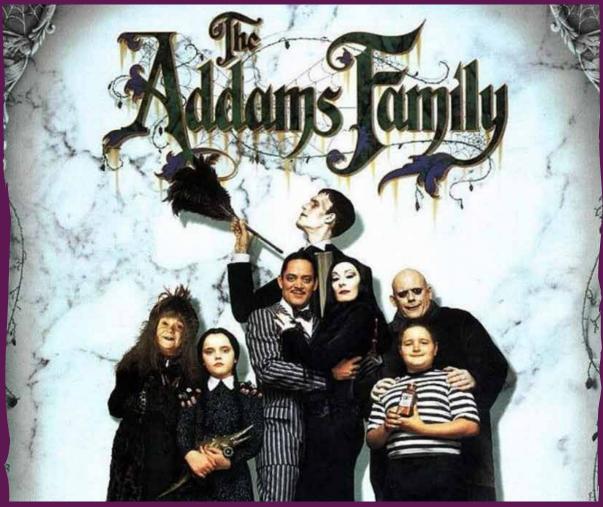






# FOR TEENS & TWEENS

# interactive Movie:



### For Tweens & Teens in Grades 5-12

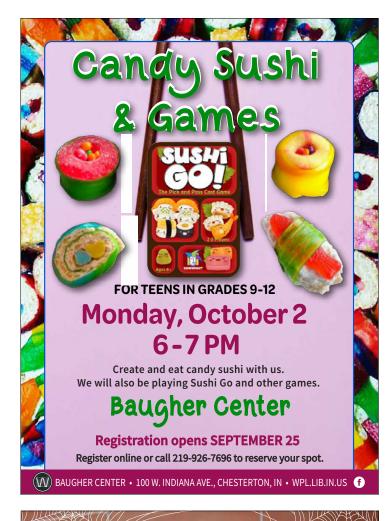
We'll be watching "The Addams Family" (1991 version) and everyone will get the interactive rules, so we can cheer and shout out lines together. If you can't stay quiet during a movie, this is the night for you!

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 3:45 - 5:45 PM BAUGHER CENTER Registration opens OCTOBER 6

Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.



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CRAFT KIT: JACK SKELLINCTON BALLOON STRING ART

FOR TWEENS & TEENS IN GRADES 5-12

Grab this kit to create a festive craft inspired by Jack <u>Skellington</u>.

### Registration for this kit opens OCTOBER 5

This kit is picked up at HAGEMAN from OCTOBER 12-19. Register online or call 219-926-9080.

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Culture Club

#### For Tweens in Grades 5 - 8

Explore the world with us, one country (and one snack) at a time. The world is an exciting place full of amazing sights and food, and we want to share it with you!

This month we will be learning about Spain! We will also eat snacks and play trivia! Join us to learn more about this amazing world we live in.



### Thursday, October 5 6-7 PM

**BAUGHER CENTER** 

100 W. Indiana Ave, Chesterton Registration opens **SEPTEMBER 28** 

REGISTER ONLINE AT WPL.LIB.IN.US OR CALL 219-926-7696 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT 🕧 🎯



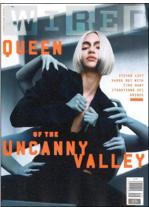
# MAGAZINES OF INTEREST



### Poular Mechanics (Thomas print & digital)

Popular Mechanics helps the reader master the modern world, presenting

the latest advances in science and technology. Learn how these advances will impact your home, your car, consumer electronics, computers, even your health. It's the magzine for people who have a passion to know how things work.



### Wired (Thomas print & digital)

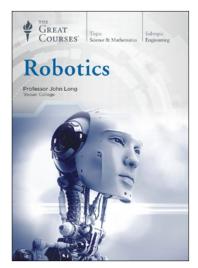
*Wired* is the magazine for smart, intellectually curious people who need and want to know what's next. Whether it's technology, business, global politics, new media, arts and culture, design, or the best new products, *Wired* is there, on the front lines of the 21st Century.

# THE GREAT COURSES

### Robotics (DVD)

Ours is a world increasingly defined by the cutting-edge field of robotics. The future of human civilization depends on collaborative robotics: humans and machines working together. According to robotics expert and award-winning professor John Long of Vassar College, "Robots are what computers and self-propelled vehicles were to the 20th century: a technological revolution that impacts nearly every aspect of our lives, businesses, and security."

Yet for all their seen (and unseen) prevalence, robotics remains mysterious to most of us. How exactly do robots work? What does it take to build a robot that can, for a period of time, perform tasks and make decisions with little human input? How do we balance the technological benefits of robots with the potential risks they pose to pre-existing ways of life?



Professor Long will answer these and other questions as he takes an in-depth journey present in the 24 incredible lectures of *Robotics*. Using in-studio robot demonstrations, videos of other state-of-the-art robots, 3-D animations, and other amazing visual aids, Professor Long demystifies the world of robots and provides a comprehensive introduction to these intelligent machines. Whether you're looking to grasp the hard science of how robots work or simply curious about the implications of robots for society, consider this course your official passport to an astonishing new world and how robotics will continue to revolutionize our lives.

## FOR KIDS

# ONSTER DASH BAS

For Kids Ages 2-5 and Their Caregivers

# Monday, october 23 4-5 PM BHUGHER CENTER

Little monsters dressed in their Halloween costumes are welcome to stomp on by for a monstrously good time as we read a story, create a monster craft, dance, and play ghoulish games.

**Registration opens on OCTOBER 16.** Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.



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## Tinker & Create: MEXICAN FOLK ART

#### FOR KIDS IN GRADES 1-4

We are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month by recognizing the histories, cultures, and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Join us to make replicas of the Amate Bark Paintings used by the Otomi Indians of San Pablito, Mexico.



### Monday, October 9 4:30-5:30 PM Hageman Branch

**Registration opens OCTOBER 2** Register online or call 219-926-9080 to reserve your spot.

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### **PLAYDATE** For Babies Birth-24 Months and Their Caregivers

This program offers babies and their caregivers the opportunity to meet other children their own age. As the babies practice social skills such as taking turns and sharing, caregivers can exchange hints, tips, and other information, sometimes forming lifelong friendships along the way.



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### DIGITAL LITERACY AND CODING FOR KIDS

For Kids in Grades K - 4

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 • 4 - 5 PM

Join Miss Justine as we celebrate Digital Citizenship Week and demystify the world of coding. Kids will learn creative coding in Python by making their own Pixel Art.

### THOMAS BRANCH-IT CLASSROOM

**Registration opens OCTOBER 12** Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

#### C common sense education

Digital Citizenship Week is a global initiative by Common Sense Education to help children take ownership of their digital lives. © Common Sense Education is a registered trademark of Common Sense Media, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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# CRAFTERNOONS PICK-UP CRAFT KIT

🖌 at the Hageman Branch

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URKEY These turkeys will be extra-special w you color them wit



These turkeys will be extra-special when you color them with oil pastels and then add feathers! This Craft Kit is for kids ages 2-5.

Registration opens OCTOBER 28

Register online or call 219–926–9080 to reserve your kit. This craft kit is picked up at HAGEMAN from November 4–11.

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# BRAIDING SWEETGRASS FOR KIDS

For Kids in Grades K-4

# Thursday, November 2 4-5 PM

In observance of Native American Heritage Month, we will gather to learn about Native American history, traditions, and teachings. Together, we will also learn to make sweetgrass braids as we discuss the strength it represents.

# HAGEMAN BRANCH Registration opens OCTOBER 26

Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants is a New York Times bestseller by Robin Wall Kimmerer, a mother, scientist, professor, and enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.



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Toddler Time For Kids Ages 2-3 and Their Caregivers Join Miss Cyndi and Grandma Ann for a very active, musical storytime session.

MONDAYS 10-10:30 or 11-11:30 AM 11/6 • 11/13 • 11/20 • 11/27 • 12/4

HAGEMAN BRANCH

Registration opens OCTOBER 30

Tickle Tales For Babies Ages 9-24 Months and Their Caregivers Join Miss Ronnie for an interactive program filled with songs, stories, fingerplays, and nursery rhymes.

TUESDAYS 10-10:30 or 11-11:30 AM 11/7 • 11/14 • 11/21 • 11/28 • 12/5

> FRIDAYS 10-10:30 AM 11/10 • 11/17 • 12/1 • 12/8

HAGEMAN BRANCH

Registration opens OCTOBER 31

Little Explorers How Things Work

For Kids Ages 4-6 and Their Caregivers

Join Miss Justine for stories about "how things work." WEDNESDAYS 4-4:30 PM 11/8 • 11/15 • 11/22

11/29 • 12/6

**BAUGHER CENTER** 

Registration opens NOVEMBER 1

Register for this **five-week session** online at wpl.lib.in.us or call to reserve your spot.



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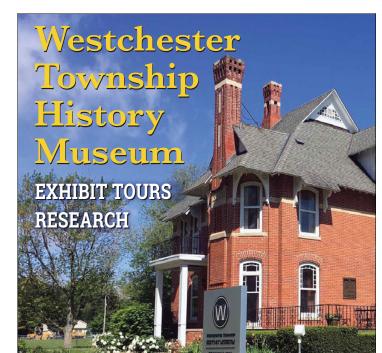
## MUSEUM

# NICONSTREME TRANSPORT

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31 7 - 8 PM Westchester Township History Museum

Join us for Monster Trivia Night and test your knowledge of monsters from literature, mythology, movies, and television. Teams of 1-4 can vie for the prize. Doors open at 6:45 PM. Seating is first come, first served.

For more information call 219-983-9715.



Sunday & Monday Closed Wednesday Open 12 - 5 pm 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month Open 12 - 5 pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday by appointment only Call 219-983-9715 to reserve a time. WESTCHESTER TWP. HISTORY MUSEUM + 700 W. PORTER AVE., CHESTERTON, IN + 219-983-9715 + WPL.LIB.IN.US •



### ON DISPLAY THROUGH 2023 WESTCHESTER TOWNSHIP HISTORY MUSEUM

Look back at the 122-year history of steel in the Region and its impact on local towns, the economy, population growth, and transportation. The exhibit includes photographs, maps, and artifacts from the Museum collection, as well as some on loan from the Northwest Indiana Steel Heritage Group. Come see the 4-foot-long wrench and try it out to see how difficult it must be to work with these giant tools.

The Westchester Township History Museum is open: 12pm - 5pm Wednesdays and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. You may also visit on Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday by appointment. Call 219-983-9715 to reserve a time.

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### **Discover Your Family History at Westchester Public Library**

Genealogy and Research Workstations including

> Now Available at our Thomas Branch, Hageman Branch, and Westchester Township History Museum

Thomas Branch • 200 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton • 219-926-7696 Hageman Branch • 100 Francis St., Porter • 219-926-9080 Westchester Township History Museum • 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton • 219-983-9715



2:00 pm - 3:00 pm THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 THE BROWN MANSION

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# 24/7 VIRTUAL SERVICES AT WPL.LIB.IN.US



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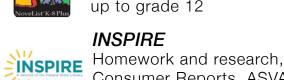


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### EBSCO database

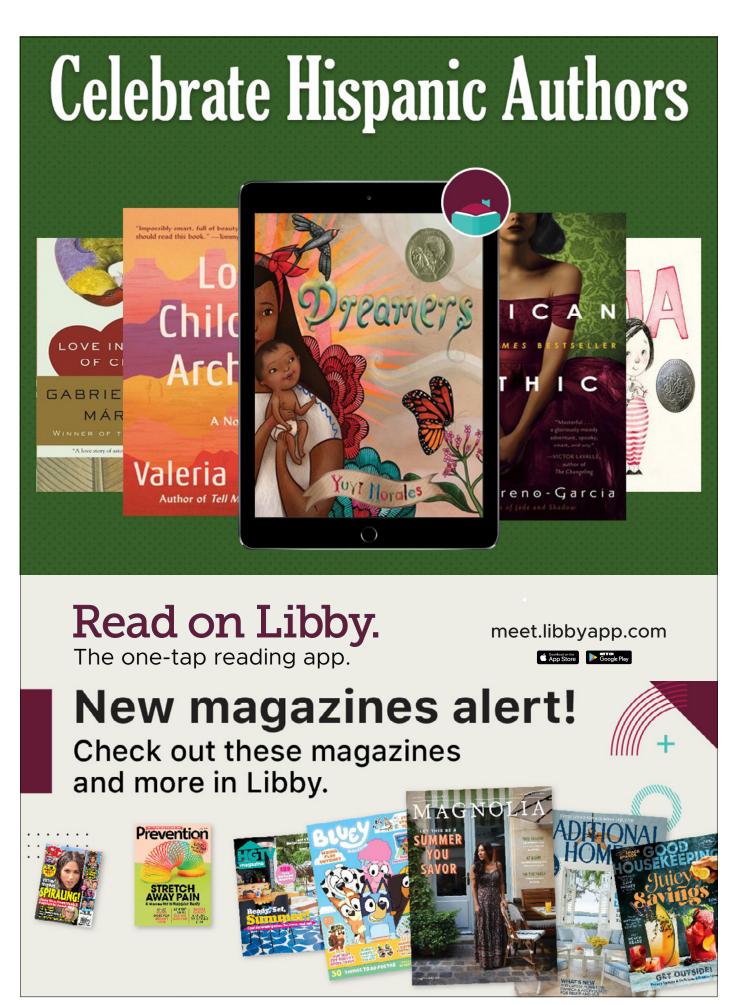
Art, biographies, home improvement, nutrition, crafts, trade magazines, newspapers, medicine and more





Check out the 24/7 digital lineup at wpl.lib.in.us, including: ebooks • audiobooks • comics/graphic novels movies • TV • magazines • music







Curbside Pickup hours: Monday-Friday 1pm-6pm at both branches; Saturday 11:30am-4:30pm at Thomas Branch; Saturday 1:30pm-4:30pm at Hageman Branch; Sunday 1:30pm-4:30pm at Thomas Branch

1. Use your Library card to place holds (online or by phone) for up to 5 DVDs and 10 other items per card, based on the following item limits: 5 DVDs, 10 Music CDs, 5 New Books, 2 Electronic Games, 10 General Books.

2. After you receive notice that your holds are ready, drive to your branch during Curbside Pickup hours. Pull into a specially-numbered parking space.

3. Call the Library phone number posted on the numbered parking space sign and staff will check-out and bring your holds to your parking space.

4. TWO options for pickup! Staff will place your holds on the table attached to your parking space for you to get, OR, pop your trunk and staff will place your holds inside the trunk and will then close it for you.

#### 5. Pull out and enjoy your Library materials!

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# HOMEBOUND

WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Are you, or is someone you know, homebound due to an extended illness, injury, or disability? Residents of Westchester Township who are unable to visit the Library for those reasons may be eligible for free homebound service, in which personalized selections of Library materials are delivered to them.

To learn more about WPL's Homebound Service, please call the Thomas Library Branch at 219-926-7696.

# WPL TECH HELP

Get help with apps, email, and devices including phones, tablets, and laptops.



**FREE SERVICE** Call 219-926-7696 for Tech Help availability

# WPL YOUTUBE



# NEW MOVIE & TELEVISION SERIES RELEASES

### Movie Title: The Little Mermaid (2023) // Rating: PG

**Synopsis:** Mermaid Ariel longs to find out more about the world beyond the sea, and while visiting the surface, falls for the dashing Prince Eric. She makes a deal with the evil sea witch, Ursula, which gives her a chance to experience life on land, but ultimately places her life and her father's crown in jeopardy.

### Movie Title: Air // Rating: R

**Synopsis:** Follows the history of sports marketing executive Sonny Vaccaro, and how he led Nike in its pursuit of the greatest athlete in the history of basketball, Michael Jordan.

**TV Series Title:** *Yashahime: Princess Half-Demon. Season 1, Part 1 (Japanese) // Rating: TV-13* **Synopsis:** Half-demon twins Towa and Setsuna reunite after ten years to discover that they are the daughters of the great demon Sesshomaru. Joined by Moroha, the daughter of Inuyasha and Kagome, the girls set out on a journey to regain their missing past.

#### Sign up for the Westchester Public Library eNewsletter at wpl.lib.in.us.

Every month WPL will send an email about upcoming programs, classes, and events happening at the library. WPL will absolutely never sell or give your email address to anyone else. You always have the right to opt-out or opt-in to receiving our emails.