

MARCH 2025

WOMEN'S HISTORY



Pictured are four generations of women from the Olsen family who resided in Westchester Township. Photo courtesy of "Chesterton Tribune" Photo Archives.

Sometimes, the only way to find information on women is to get help. Contact a library, museum, archive, or historical society in the town/county where they lived. The Westchester Township History Museum offers assistance in locating these institutions and finding obscure records. For local women, check out our Women's History Month posts on Facebook or look through the family histories and records at the Museum.

Do you have blanks in your family tree for your female ancestors? If so, you're not alone. Researching women in the U.S., especially before the 20th century, can be difficult due to social and political norms that excluded women from official records. If you are having trouble, consider using Ancestry Library Edition available at all WPL sites or visit the Museum for assistance.

Ancestry Library Edition gives you access to U.S. records, including immigration records, as well as international records. However, it is important to know which records are actually available for women. For example, prior to the 1930s, women's citizenship was reliant on their husband's or father's status, so many immigrant women did not have individual records. Wills, bank records, and land records were also limited for women until they achieved the right to own and control property, and those dates depend on their state residency.

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Genealogy and research workstations are available at our Thomas Branch, Hageman Branch, and Westchester Township History Museum.

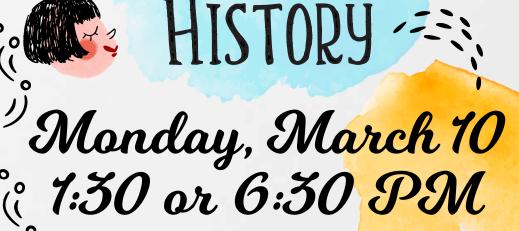
In honor of Women's History Month, the Westchester Township History Museum will post a daily story on Facebook about historic area women whose passions, obstacles, and histories have impacted our community. Learn about the women who helped to make this area great, the struggles they had to overcome, and the legacies they left behind.

PROGRAMS & CRAFT KITS FOR ADULTS

Adult Craft:

DOODLING

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JOIN US TO UNWIND, LEARN, AND CREATE A VARIETY OF INSPIRED DOODLES IN THE STYLE OF DIFFERENT FEMALE ARTISTS TO CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH. ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED: NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

FOR ADULTS AGES 18 AND UP.

Thomas Branch

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 3 REGISTER ONLINE OR CALL 219 926 7696 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT.

THOMAS BRANCH • 200 W. INDIANA AVE., CHESTERTON, IN • WPL.LIB.IN.US 📀 🕧



Monday, March 3 • 2-3:30 PM THOMAS BRANCH

The Doctors Blackwell by Janice Nimura

Elizabeth Blackwell believed from an early age that she was destined for a mission beyond the scope of "ordinary" womanhood. In 1849, she became the first woman in America to receive an M.D. She was soon joined in her achievement by her younger sister, Emily. Together, the Blackwells founded the New York Infirmary for Indigent Women and Children, the first hospital staffed entirely by women. From Bristol, Paris, and Edinburgh to the rising cities of antebellum America, this richly researched new biography celebrates two complicated pioneers who exploded the limits of possibility for women in medicine.



Please call the Thomas Branch at 219-926-7696 for availability.

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Amanda

Montell

Please call the Thomas

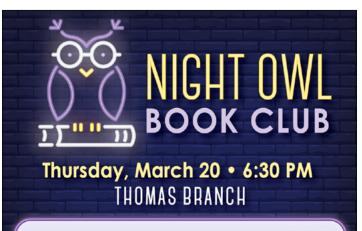
Branch at 219-926-7696

for availability

This program is for adults ages 18 and up.

Next Month's Book Club Date: APRIL 7

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Cultish: The Language of Fanaticism by Amanda Montell

What makes "cults" so intriguing and frightening? What makes them powerful? The reason why so many of us binge Manson documentaries by the dozen and fall down rabbit holes researching suburban moms gone QAnon is because we're looking for a satisfying explanation for what causes people to join—and more importantly, stay in—extreme groups.

This program is for adults ages 18 and up.

Registration opens February 20

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



DAN HEATH Wednesday, March 12 1 PM

ONLINE AUTHOR TALKS

Westchester Public Library Webinars and Online Events

Registration at: libraryc.org/wpl

CLARA BINGHAM Thursday, March 20 1 PM



JENNIFER WEINER Wednesday, March 26 6 PM

WPL BOOK CLUB KITS





BEETLE

Over 60 fiction and non-fiction Book Club Kit titles available to check out.

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

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





Let's face it...how often do you get to chow down on a selection of the world's most iconic cookies, test out your taste bud prowess, and hang out with the best people in the world?! This program is for adults ages 18 and up.

THOMAS BRANCH

Registration opens February 25



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MONDAY Northern Cardinal **MARCH 24** Tufted Titmouse 6:30 - 7:30 PM House Finch Do you love to learn about our feathered friends? Join us for a game of Birding Bingo and discuss resources for beginning birders in our area. Members of Dunes-Calumet Audubon Society will be assisting the program with information, resources and prizes. For adults ages 18 and up. Thomas Branch louse Wren Aourning Dov **Registration opens MARCH 17** Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.



Thursday, March 20 4-5 PM

Everyone knows you need strong, unique passwords for all of your accounts. But how do you do that? We'll examine two systems to create and store strong passwords.

THOMAS BRANCH- IT CLASSROOM Registration opens MARCH 6

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

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WPL'S SUNDAY MATINEE

RATED PG

SUNDAY, MARCH 23 AT 1:30 PM BAUGHER CENTER 100 W. INDIANA AVENUE, CHESTERTON, IN

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

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Sharing everyday, positive interactions to spread "library joy"!

Happy Tales



MAKE IT A GAME NIGHT Our Thomas and Hageman Branches

have over 500 games available to check out for patrons of all ages.



From a patron participating in the MLK Challenge: "I really appreciate what you and the library staff have done for the MLK Day activities packets. Keep up the good work!"

From a YA patron:

A teen said she loves the Unwrappable books. [She] says it makes it exciting to get a book.

From Thomas Circulation Staff:

A patron said she is grateful for the programs we offer. She went to a mosaic program in the past and enjoyed it. She said that our programs sparked months of her and her family having adventures and more classes about mosaics.

From a young patron that came in to feed the pine tree book drop:

"I love feeding the tree. It lets me get more books because he is super hungry."

If you've had a Happy Tale at WPL or a special library experience, stop by and tell us about it at the Circulation Desk.

FRIENDS OF The Library Spring Book Sale April Sat. 12 & Sun. 13 9 Am - 4 Pm

MEMBERS ONLY PREVIEW ON FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 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 Spring 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.



FOR TEENS & TWEENS



FOR TWEENS & TEENS IN GRADES 5-12

TUESDAY, MARCH 4 4-5 PM

With toothpicks, marshmallows, craft sticks, and spoons at our disposal we will make mighty castles and catapults to try knocking them down.



Registration opens February 25

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



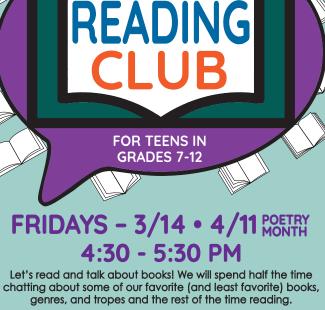
HAGEMAN BRANCH • 100 FRANCIS ST., PORTER, IN • WPL.LIB.IN.US 🕚



FOR TWEENS IN GRADES 5-8 Join us as we talk about our favorite series, the best characters, and what we are currently watching and reading. We will also have crafts, trivia, and surveys.

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 6 Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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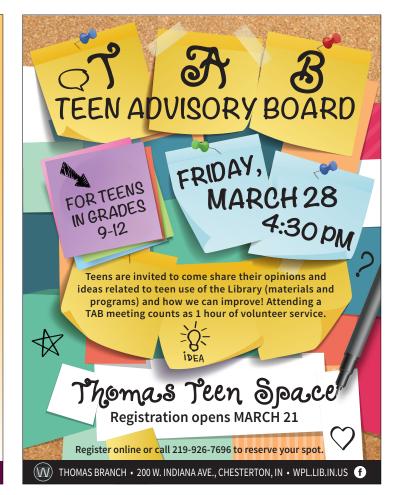


TEEN

THOMAS TEEN SPACE

Registration opens one week before the meeting. Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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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 Denmark, one of the best countries for women's rights! We will also eat snacks and play trivia! Join us to learn more about this amazing world we live in.



DFN



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

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Jekesters & Pranksters

FOR TWEENS & TEENS IN GRADES 5-12 TUESDAY, APRIL 1 4:30 PM

Join us this April Fools Day to learn new jokes, share stories of the best pranks you've pulled, and play games involving fooling people such as two truths and a lie, Apples to Apples, and the I Doubt It card game.

Hageman Branch Registration opens MARCH 25

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



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MAGAZINES OF INTEREST



In Her Studio (Hageman print & digital)

In Her Studio takes readers on a tour through the creative spaces and lives of female artists, designers, and makers. From traditional to not-so-traditional, artists showcase the places where they create and share the thought processes behind developing their spaces. Each woman offers a glimpse into her creative life while sharing the tips and tricks that work for her as an experienced artist. The magazine spotlights creatives of all types, and from all walks of life, from full-time professionals to those who create purely for pleasure.



Garden Gate (Thomas/Hageman print & digital)

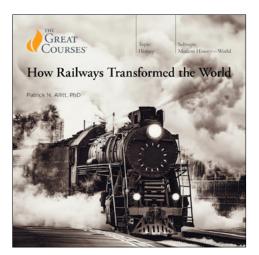
In every issue, find plants for your gardens: flowers of all kinds, including perennials, annuals, and bulbs, as well as trees and shrubs. Gorgeous illustrated garden designs using beautiful, easy-to-grow garden plans are also provided. Ever been perplexed about when to divide, how to prune, whether to deadhead or which fertilizer to apply? All of that is covered (and more!) in the Garden Maintenance Advice section in every issue. Simple, step-by-step instructions on everything from planting roses to dealing with pests and weeds, *Garden Gate* will take many of the questions out of gardening.

GREAT COURSES

How Railways Transformed the World (DVD)

Railways are one of the most important inventions in modern history. While most of us have experienced railways as passengers and through media, a deeper look at railways shows a historical phenomenon of astonishing proportions. Rail travel brought the first overland mass transport of both people and goods, spanning continents and linking communities and nations with unprecedented speed and efficiency. The effects of this innovation on the way of life of people around the world have been incalculable.

In these 24 richly illustrated lectures, Professor Patrick N. Allitt of Emory University takes you on a deep dive into the history, lore, and the multiple dimensions of trains and rail travel. He infuses the lectures with a vast and discerning knowledge of trains and train travel as he discusses the importance of railways throughout history and throughout the world, including material about rail travel today.



FOR KIDS

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THURSDAY CH 13 PM

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Explore the vastness of the Oceans as we dive into stories from across the wide seas, create aquatic-themed crafts, and play together in our underwater adventure.

Registration opens MAR

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

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CRAFTERNOONS PICK-UP CRAFT KIT at the Hageman Branch

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PORTER COUNT

This kit contains everything you need to make a beautiful butterfly and practice your lacing skills too.

This craft kit is for ages 2–6.

Registration opens MARCH 29

Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your kit. This craft kit may be picked up at HAGEMAN from APRIL 5-12.

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Register online or call 219-926-9080 to reserve your spot. (W) HAGEMAN BRANCH • 100 FRANCIS ST., PORTER, IN • WPL.LIB.IN.US MUSIC e ARTS

BAUHA For Kids in Grades K-4

Thursday, March 20 4-5 PM

Step back in time as we learn about the women of the Bauhaus school in Germany and their textile art that still inspires artists today. Kids will use a loom and weave their own piece to take home as we listen to music together.

THOMAS BRANCH

Registration opens MARCH 13 Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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Toddler Time

For Toddlers Ages 2-3 and Their Caregivers Join us for a sensory storytime. Together we will read, sing, socialize, create, and learn through play.

MONDAYS 10-10:30 or 11-11:30 AM 4/7 • 4/14 • 4/21 • 4/28

THOMAS CHILDREN'S DEPT.

Registration opens MARCH 31

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 $4/8 \cdot 4/15 \cdot 4/22 \cdot 4/29$ FRIDAYS 10-10:30 AM 4/11 • 4/25 • 5/2



HAGEMAN BRANCH

Registration opens APRIL 1 anananananananananananananananananana

Little Explorers MATH ROCKS!

THOMAS BRANCH

For Kids Ages 4-6 and Their Caregivers Join Miss Justine for stories that help

us to become mathematical thinkers and use math skills in art.

WEDNESDAYS 4-4:30 PM 4/9 • 4/16 • 4/23 • 4/30

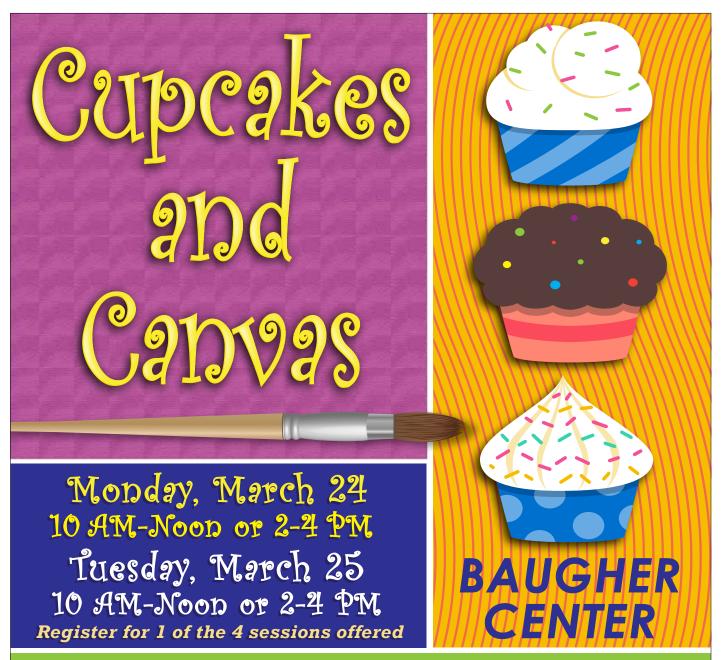
Registration opens APRIL 2

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



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MUSEUM



Come join us for painting and delicious cupcakes over spring break with Museum Educator Susan Swarner!

For Kids Ages 6-12 • All supplies provided • Wear messy clothes Parent or guardian must accompany child. Class size is limited to 12 children. Registration opens MARCH 10 at 9 am.

Register online or call the Museum at 219-983-9715. Register for one 2-hour session at either 10 am-12 pm or 2-4 pm.



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MUSIC AT THE MUSEUM

Join the Flashbacks for a blast from the past as they present hits from the past 500 years. They focus on folk music from various countries and include some classics that you may have heard before.

The group is composed of Suzanne Keldsen, playing guitar, recorders, and fiddle; Jim Nelson on guitar; Lynn Edgemon playing guitar and banjo; and Marti Pizzini on autoharp, dulcimer, and guitar.

2:00 рм - 3:00 рм **THURSDAY**, **MARCH 13**

THE BROWN MANSION For more information call 219-983-9715.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 25 7-8 PM

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Westchester Township History Museum

May the luck of the Irish be with you at this month's Trivia Night! Test your knowledge of Irish and Irish-American pop culture and history. Teams of 1-4 can vie for the prize. Seating is first come, first served. Doors open at 6:45 PM. For more information call 219-983-9715.

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Westchester Township History Museum

EXHIBIT TOURS • RESEARCH

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.



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24/7 Access-WPL's virtual library resources anytime on your electronic devices!



wpl.lib.in.us/virtual-library/



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eMusic, eComics and more

The New York Times

Access original, quality

hoopla

journalism

kanopy

Kanopy Award winning movies, foreign films, & inspiring documentaries



Expert readalike suggestions

Novelist K-8 Plus Expert readalike suggestions up to grade 12

INSPIRE Homework and research, Consumer Reports, ASVAB and SAT test prep and more





EBSCO database

Brainfuse HelpNow

Free, live online tutoring

ages and subjects, and more

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

Novelist Plus for adults







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





WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY provides FREE online access to

The New York Times



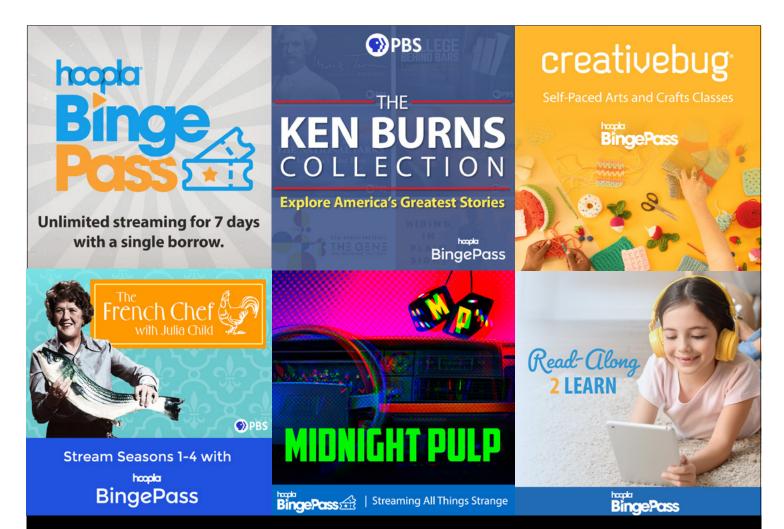
Understand the world. Navigate life. Access The New York Times here. wpl.lib.in.us/virtual-library/





Your favorite magazines, available on your device.

Libby. The library reading app



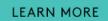
Check out the 24/7 digital lineup at wpl.lib.in.us, including: ebooks audiobooks • comics/graphic novels • movies • TV • magazines • music

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9:45 SHERNES OF GAVETY Kate Atkinson	C. Kate Addisson SHOW 10 TITLES	Carrie Soto Is I
Shrines of Gaie	Language english 😤	Results
KATE ATKINSO SHRINES OF GAIETY	Read With kindle 8 epub 9	audioboo tins Reid Is Back Notify Me Read San
Notify Me Read Sample	deep search 😵 Include titles that are not owned by your library. This is activated automatically when there's no results for a regular search.	Tag sins Reld

Did you know?

You can use Libby to find and express interest in titles that aren't in our digital collection.



Libby. The library reading app





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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HAGEMAN BRANCH • 100 FRANCIS ST., PORTER, IN • 926-9080 • WPL.LIB.IN.US



BOOKS • DVDs • AUDIOBOOKS CDS • MAGAZINES • AND MORE!

If you are a resident of Westchester Township and are unable to visit the Library due to extended illness, injury, disability or infirmity, WPL Home Delivery is for you!

Library materials delivered to your door every three weeks
Stop or restart the service at any time

To learn more about WPL's Home Delivery, 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 For Tech Help, please call 219-926-7696 to schedule an appointment.

WPL YOUTUBE



NEW MOVIE & TELEVISION SERIES RELEASES

TV Series: Dogman // Rating: PG

Synopsis: When a faithful police dog and his human police officer owner are injured together on the job, a harebrained but life-saving surgery fuses the two of them together and Dog Man is born. Dog Man is sworn to protect and serve—and fetch, sit and roll over. As Dog Man embraces his new identity and strives to impress his Chief, he must stop the pretty evil plots of feline supervillain Petey the Cat.

Movie Title: Nosferatu // Rating: R

Synopsis: A gothic tale of obsession between a haunted young woman and the terrifying vampire infatuated with her, causing untold horror in its wake.

Movie Title: September 5 // Rating: R

Synopsis: During the 1972 Munich Olympics, an American sports broadcasting crew finds itself thrust into covering the hostage crisis involving Israeli athletes.

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.