



WPL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

CELEBRATE HISPANIC CULTURE



Join WPL in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month; each year, Americans observe the rich cultures, histories, traditions, and dynamic contributions of the Latin/Latinx communities.

Want to celebrate Hispanic Heritage with others? This month, adults can join us to learn about sustaining the [Monarch butterflies' migration](#) to South America. Adults can also get crafty and learn about [Alebríes](#), the fantastical folk art animals that celebrate Día de los Muertos. Tweens and Teens will learn about Día de los Muertos during the new monthly program, [Myths & Folklore](#), which will feature life and death celebrations this month.

Kids ages 4-6 will celebrate and groove to Spanish music and read a folktale in the Little Explorers storytime. Meanwhile, elementary-aged children will make, take, and bake [Mexican Sweet Bread](#) in Baking History.

It doesn't stop there. All ages are welcome to join us for the Fall Friends of the Library Book Sale, which takes place October 3-5. Check out this year's foreign language section to continue learning at home.

Can't make it to the Library? We have [Virtual Events](#) with

world-renowned authors and thinkers such as the [Smithsonian](#) for an afternoon discussion surrounding the stories in Nuestra América, which cover the cultural background and childhood of 30 inspiring Latin voices, and their accomplishments or contributions to American history.

Did you know that WPL has a Foreign Language collections for all ages? Check out books, DVDs or Blu-Rays to immerse yourself in the Spanish language and Latin/Latinx culture year round.

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FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY FALL BOOK SALE

OCTOBER
SAT. 4 & SUN. 5
9 AM - 4 PM

MEMBERS ONLY PREVIEW ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 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**



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY
proudly presents

MOONLIGHT MOVIES



***Bring the whole family
out for a movie night!***

*Immediately following the Porter
Parks Department's Boo Bash.*

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA

This movie is rated PG.

**Friday, October 17
6-7:45 PM**

Hawthorne Park Community Center

Eat, drink, and be scary!

**The Chesterton-Porter Rotary Club will offer free popcorn
during the event, and cold drinks will be sold for \$1.00.**

**This event will take place indoors at the Hawthorne Park
Community Building, 500 Ackerman Drive in Porter.**

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



PROGRAMS & CRAFT KITS FOR ADULTS



Puzzle Race

Join us for a friendly competition with prizes!

All are welcome to see who can put together a jigsaw puzzle the fastest.

For adults ages 18 and up.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8
6:30-7:30 PM

THOMAS BRANCH
Registration opens OCTOBER 1
Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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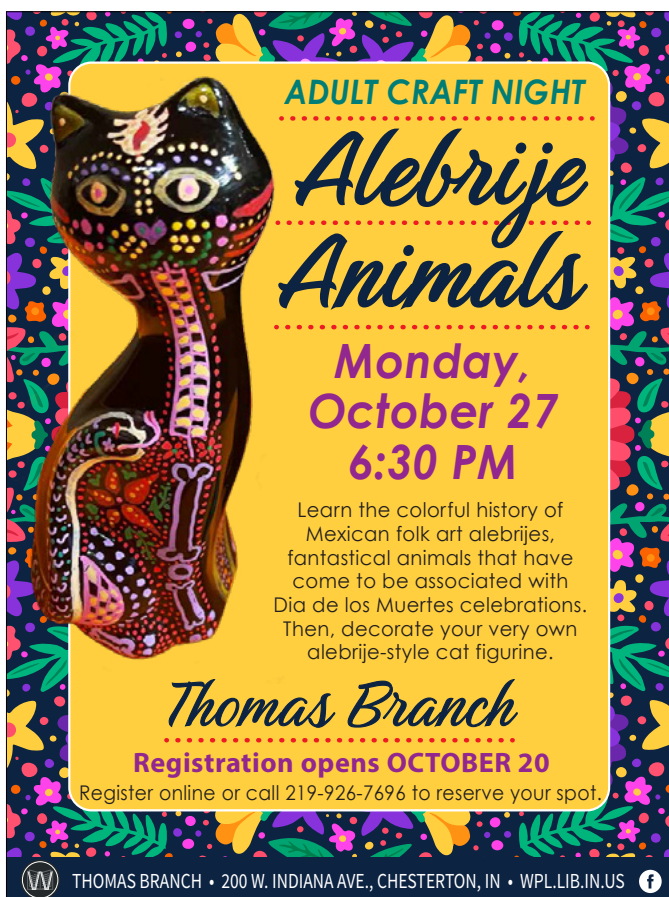
Save the Monarchs
Seed Bombs

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14
6:30-7:30 PM

Join us for a fun way to support the lives of pollinators in our area. The seeds in the bombs will go through the wintering process, and then grow into native wildflowers that will sustain the monarch population next year. This program is for adults ages 18 and up.

Thomas Branch
Registration opens OCTOBER 7
Register online or by calling 219-926-9080 to reserve your spot.

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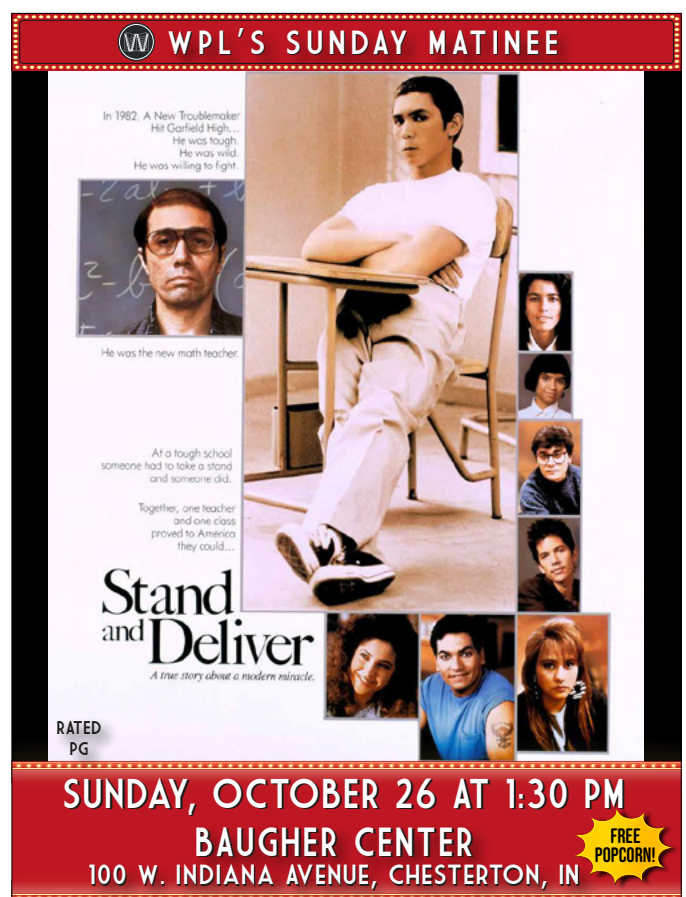
ADULT CRAFT NIGHT
Alebrije Animals

Monday, October 27
6:30 PM

Learn the colorful history of Mexican folk art alebrijes, fantastical animals that have come to be associated with Día de los Muertos celebrations. Then, decorate your very own alebrije-style cat figurine.

Thomas Branch
Registration opens OCTOBER 20
Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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WPL'S SUNDAY MATINEE

In 1982, A New Troublemaker Hit Garfield High... He was tough. He was wild. He was willing to fight.

He was the new math teacher.

At a tough school someone had to take a stand and someone did.

Together, one teacher and one class proved to America they could...

Stand and Deliver
A true story about a modern miracle.

RATED PG

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 AT 1:30 PM
BAUGHER CENTER
100 W. INDIANA AVENUE, CHESTERTON, IN

FREE POPCORN!

Popular Books

DISCUSSION GROUP


Monday, October 6 • 2-3:30 PM
THOMAS BRANCH

The Women of Chateau Lafayette by Stephanie Dray

An epic saga from New York Times best-selling author Stephanie Dray, *The Women of Chateau Lafayette* is based on the true story of an extraordinary castle in the heart of France and the remarkable women bound by its legacy. Intricately woven and powerfully told, this is a sweeping novel about duty and hope, love and courage, and the strength we take from those who came before us.

This program is for adults ages 18 and up.

Next Month's Book Club Date: NOVEMBER 3



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

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October

ONLINE AUTHOR TALKS

Westchester Public Library Webinars and Online Events
Registration at: libraryc.org/wpl



Nuestra América: Stories of 30 Inspiring Latinas/Latinos Who Have Shaped the United States with Smithsonian Educators
Thursday, October 2 at 1 PM



10 Years of Daring Heists and Lovable Outcasts in YA Fantasy with Leigh Bardugo
Thursday, October 9 at 6 PM




Finding My Way with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Malala Yousafzai
Wednesday, October 22 at 6 PM



Courtly Intrigue and Whispers as Weapons with Historical Fiction Queen Philippa Gregory
Wednesday, October 29 at 1 PM

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NIGHT OWL BOOK CLUB

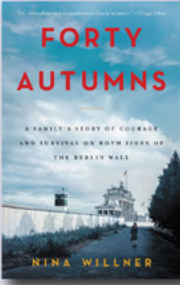
Wednesday, October 22 • 6:30 PM
THOMAS BRANCH

Forty Autumns by William Morrow

In this illuminating and deeply moving memoir, a former American military intelligence officer goes beyond traditional Cold War espionage tales to tell the true story of her family - of five women separated by the Iron Curtain for more than 40 years and their miraculous reunion after the fall of the Berlin Wall. *Forty Autumns* makes visceral the pain and longing of one family forced to live apart in a world divided by two.

This program is for adults ages 18 and up.

Registration opens SEPTEMBER 17
Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.



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

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WPL BOOK CLUB KITS




Over 80 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.

WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

ADULT CRAFT



DIAMOND PAINTED BOOKMARKS


Thursday, November 6
1:30 or 6:30 PM

Create a sparkling bookmark using the fun crafting technique called diamond painting. All supplies will be provided in this beginner friendly crafting experience. This program is for adults ages 18 and up.

THOMAS BRANCH

Registration opens **OCTOBER 30**
Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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MEDICARE AND YOU

Wednesday, November 12
11 AM - 1 PM

Are you soon to be eligible for Medicare? Interested in learning and understanding the changes coming in 2026? Bring your questions and be sure you are receiving all the Medicare benefits you are qualified to receive. This program will be presented by Vera Stewart of KVS insurance. This program is for adults 18 and up.

Thomas Branch

Registration opens **NOVEMBER 5**
Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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STUDY ROOMS AT WPL!



Looking for a private, professional space to take a phone call or host a virtual meeting? WPL now offers soundproof, individual study rooms at Thomas and Hageman!

Each Study Room provides:

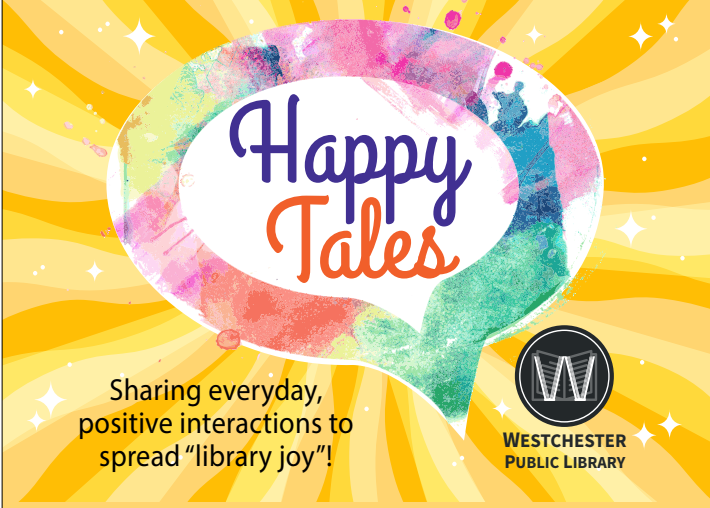
- active ventilation, refreshing the air once per minute
- its own electrical outlet and USB port to plug in and charge phones or laptops

They are a great option for telehealth or teletherapy meetings, or virtual interviews!


Give us a call or stop in to reserve your own study room at Westchester Public Library.



 **WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY** THOMAS BRANCH 219-926-7696
HAGEMAN BRANCH 219-926-9080



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

 **WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

From the Hageman Branch:
A patron was waiting for the door to open because she was so excited to tell us that she loved the book that staff had recommended to her.

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.

FOR TEENS & TWEENS

twilight

20TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

FOR TEENS IN GRADES 7-12

Sat., October 11
1-3 PM

Calling all *Twilight* fans! Join us as we celebrate the 20th anniversary since *Twilight* was published. We will discuss the books and movies, answer trivia questions, do crafts, and eat *Twilight*-inspired snacks.

BAUGHER CENTER

Registration opens
OCTOBER 4

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



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Pumpkin Spice TASTE TEST

FOR TWEENS & TEENS IN GRADES 5-12

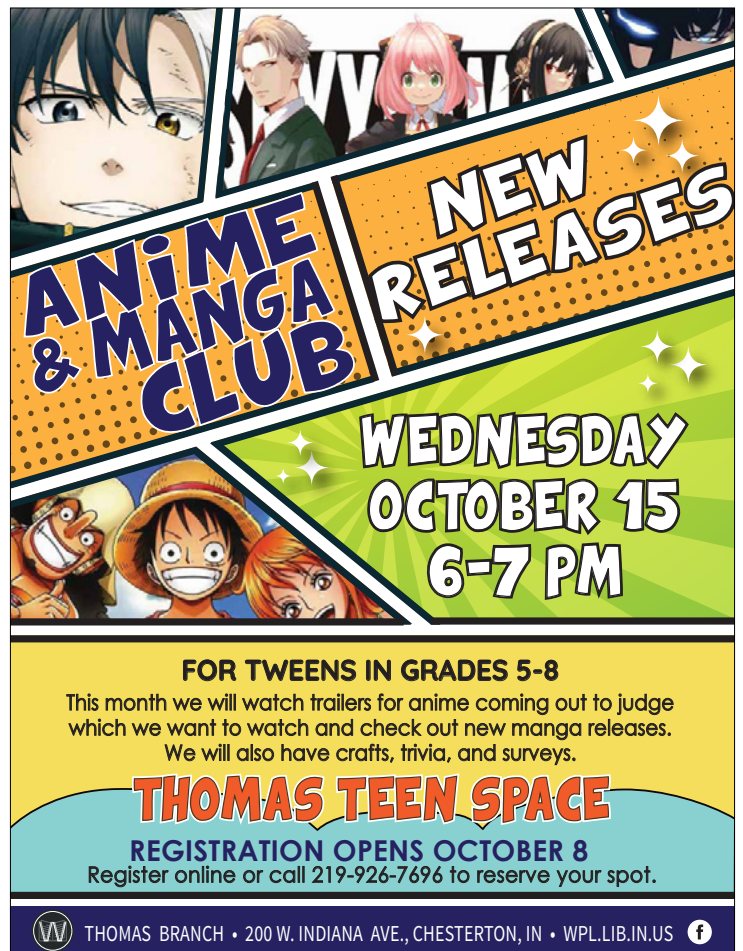
Monday, October 6
4:30-5:30 PM

Join us as we try all things pumpkin spiced flavored to find which will reign supreme!

HAGEMAN BRANCH
Registration opens **SEPTEMBER 30**

Register online or call 219-926-9080 to reserve your spot.

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



ANIME & MANGA CLUB



NEW RELEASES

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 15
6-7 PM

FOR TWEENS IN GRADES 5-8

This month we will watch trailers for anime coming out to judge which we want to watch and check out new manga releases. We will also have crafts, trivia, and surveys.

THOMAS TEEN SPACE
REGISTRATION OPENS OCTOBER 8
Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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MYTHS & FOLKLORE: LIFE & DEATH CELEBRATIONS


FOR TWEENS IN GRADES 5-8

Wednesday, October 29
5:30 PM

Explore the world with us as we dive into various myths and folklore legends to see how we all might be more similar than we think. This month we will be learning and chatting about the holidays that fall around the end of October and beginning of November, such as Halloween, Samhain, and Dia de los Muertos. We will also have a snack and decorate a mask.

THOMAS BRANCH
Registration opens **OCTOBER 22**

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

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PAPER AIRPLANE RACING

FOR TWEENS & TEENS IN GRADES 5-12

NOVEMBER 5
4:30-5:30 PM

Join us as we fold multiple types of paper airplanes and see whose plane design flies the furthest.


HAGEMAN BRANCH
REGISTRATION OPENS **OCTOBER 29**

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

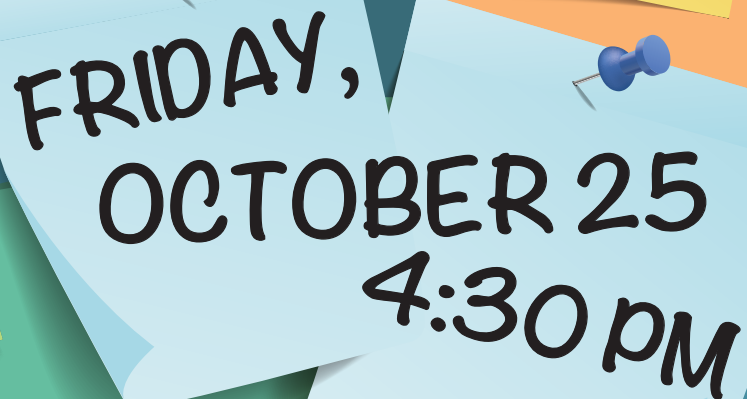
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TEEN ADVISORY BOARD



FOR TEENS
IN GRADES
9-12



FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 25
4:30 PM

Teens are invited to come share their opinions and ideas related to teen use of the Library (materials and programs) and how we can improve! Attending a TAB meeting counts as 1 hour of volunteer service.



Thomas Teen Space

Registration opens OCTOBER 17

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



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MAGAZINES OF INTEREST



Faces (Thomas print) (Juvenile)

Faces takes young readers to places close and far to get an honest and unbiased view of how children in other places live. Whether planning a trip, or just curious to explore other cultures, this magazine transports you. From common customs, rules of the road, and unique foods, to interesting animals, games that are played, and typical housing structures, *Faces* gives you all the information you need to feel like a local.



Skeptical Inquirer (Thomas print)

Published by the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry (founding members include scientists, academics, and science writers such as Carl Sagan, Isaac Asimov, and Philip Klass, to name a few), the *Skeptical Inquirer* provides access to facts regarding the scientific investigation of claims of the paranormal from a skeptical point-of-view, enabling readers to separate fact from myth in the flood of occultism and pseudoscientific theories presented in today's culture.

GREAT COURSES / WONDRIUM

12 Revolutionary Discoveries That Could Change Everything (DVD)

We're living in a golden age of scientific breakthroughs and technological advancements. From the messenger RNA (mRNA) technology deployed in the COVID-19 vaccines to new research into the biology of lichens to new theories about the inner workings of black holes, the 21st century has given us an exciting new understanding of ourselves, our world, and our universe.

Now, you have the chance to dig into some of the most fascinating and important scientific advancements in recent years. Unexpected, consequential, and often counterintuitive, *12 Revolutionary Discoveries That Could Change Everything* offers an inspiring introduction to science in the 21st century. Taught by *Scientific American* editor-in-chief Laura Helmuth, these eye-opening lectures will satiate even the most inquisitive mind.

From the chemical makeup of ocean particles to the way the brain perceives the world, Laura takes you into the fields of neuroscience, botany, paleontology, oceanography, astrophysics, and much more. Rich in stories that will please scientists and laypeople alike, this course truly is an intellectual smorgasbord of scientific disciplines.



BAKING HISTORY: CONCHAS

Mexican Pan Dulce

FOR KIDS IN GRADES K-4

Have you ever tried Conchas, also known as Mexican Sweet Bread? Join Miss Justine to learn about this beautiful delicacy and make your own to take and bake!

**THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 16
4-5 PM**

Thomas Branch

Registration opens **OCTOBER 9**

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



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MONSTER MAKER Craft Kit

Craft Kit for Kids in Grades K-4

This Craft Kit contains all you need to make 2 Monster Puppets! You decide if you want them to be sweet or scary, or maybe one of each.




HAGEMAN BRANCH

Registration opens **OCTOBER 2**

This craft kit may be picked up from HAGEMAN October 9-16.

Register online or by calling 219-926-9080.

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



CRUNCHY COOKIES

For Kids Ages 2-5 and Their Caregivers



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23 • 4-5 PM

Who doesn't love cookies? In this session, we will decorate and enjoy cookies together, while listening to sweet stories, and singing soothing songs.

BAUGHER CENTER

Registration opens **OCTOBER 16**

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



 BAUGHER CENTER • 200 INDIANA AVE., CHESTERTON, IN • WPL.LIB.IN.US 

CRAFTERNOONS PICK-UP CRAFT KIT

at the Hageman Branch



LEAFY HEDGEHOG



An explosion of fall color! This Craft Kit includes everything you need to make an adorable hedgehog puppet.

This craft kit is for ages 2-6.

Registration opens OCTOBER 27

Register online or call 219-926-9080 to reserve your kit.

This craft kit may be picked up at HAGEMAN from NOVEMBER 3-10.

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FOR KIDS AGES 2-5 AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

VOICES OF THE EARTH: NATIVE AMERICAN STORYTIME



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 4-5 PM

Join Miss Megan as we read Native American tales and learn about their culture and customs.

BAUGHER CENTER

Registration opens **OCTOBER 30**

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

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STORYTIMES

Toddler Time

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

MONDAYS 10-10:30 or 11-11:30 AM
11/3 • 11/10 • 11/17 • 11/24 • 12/1

THOMAS CHILDREN'S DEPT. Registration opens **OCTOBER 27**

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
11/4 • 11/11 • 11/18 • 11/25 • 12/2

FRIDAYS 10-10:30 AM
11/7 • 11/14 • 11/21 • 12/5

Registration opens **OCTOBER 28**

Tickle Tales

HAGEMAN BRANCH

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
11/5 • 11/12 • 11/19
11/28 • 12/3

THOMAS BRANCH

Registration opens **OCTOBER 29**

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



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HAGEMAN BRANCH • 100 FRANCIS ST., PORTER, IN • 219-926-9080



TRICKS



AT THE MUSEUM

AND TREATS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11
2 - 4 PM

*Children ages 6-12 are invited to the Brown Mansion
for some old-fashioned Halloween fun.*

SCAVENGER HUNT FOR PUMPKINS

PLAY GAMES & WIN PRIZES

Costumes are encouraged but not required.

Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Registration is not required.





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 PM - 3:00 PM
**THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 9**

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

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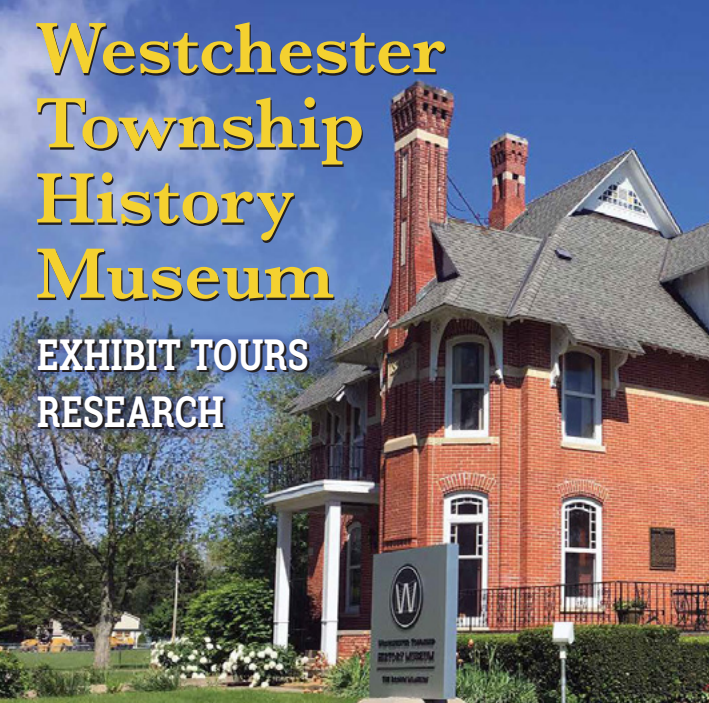
twilight Trivia Night

Tuesday, October 28 • 7-8 PM

Are you team Edward or team Jacob? 20 years ago, the *Twilight* saga began with Stephanie Meyer's first book, sparking a worldwide phenomenon. Test your knowledge of the book and movie series! Teams of 1-4 can vie for the prize. Doors open at 6:45PM, and seating is first come, first served.

Westchester Township History Museum
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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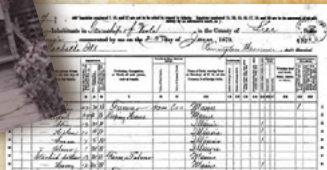
Discover Your Family History at Westchester Public Library



Genealogy and Research Workstations including

ancestry library edition

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

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Hageman Branch • 100 Francis St., Porter • 219-926-9080
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hoopla

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The New York Times

All Access–News, Games,
Cooking, Wirecutter,
The Athletic



Brainfuse HelpNow

Free, live online tutoring
including homework help for all
ages and subjects, and more



EBSCO database

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



Kanopy

Award winning movies, foreign
films, & inspiring documentaries



Novelist Plus

Expert readalike suggestions
for adults



Novelist K-8 Plus

Expert readalike suggestions
up to grade 12



INSPIRE

Homework and research, ASVAB
and SAT test prep and more



Ancestry Library Edition

Genealogical Research

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

get help with homework

submit a question to us

access free lessons and resources

form online study groups

interact with a live tutor

online standardized test practice

create your own flashcards

send your paper to the writing lab

FREE ONLINE TUTORING

brainfuse HelpNow™
Live Homework Help and So Much More

Go to wpl.lib.in.us/virtual-library/ and click on HelpNow to get started.

What will you watch?

Movies

Documentaries

Television Series

Kids Shows

Ideas

kanopy
Films that matter

Start watching at
wplin.kanopy.com

NEW SERVICE!

WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY
provides **FREE** online **ALL ACCESS** to

The New York Times

NEWS
Where Did Oscar Pistorius the Son, Wind Turbines Are Set to Rise

GAMES
Word and visual games that encourage problem-solving and offer a mental break.

COOKING
Recipes, advice and inspiration that build confidence and creativity in the kitchen.

WIRECUTTER
Independent product reviews that help consumers make more informed decisions.

THE ATHLETIC
Personalized sports coverage that encourages literacy and community engagement

NEWS
News and analysis to stay informed on the topics that matter most.

GAMES
Word and visual games that encourage problem-solving and offer a mental break.

COOKING
Recipes, advice and inspiration that build confidence and creativity in the kitchen.

WIRECUTTER
Independent product reviews that help consumers make more informed decisions.

THE ATHLETIC
Personalized sports coverage that encourages literacy and community engagement

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

Available on the **App Store** and **Google Play**

hoopla

BingePass



Categories for everyone!



Endless
Entertainment



Lifelong
Learning



Puzzles &
Games



Kids'
Content

One borrow. Unlimited access. Seven days.

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



Celebrate Hispanic Authors



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.

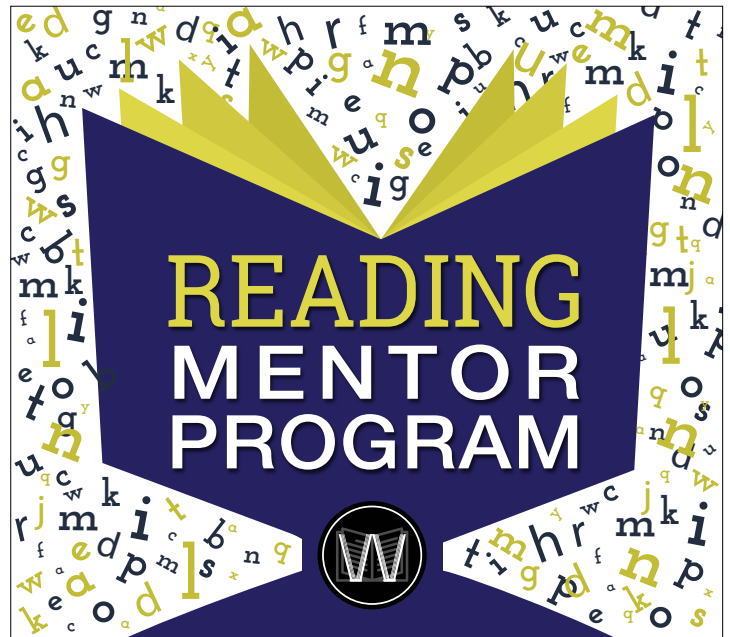
3. Call the Library phone number posted on the numbered parking space sign and staff will check-out and bring your holds to your parking space.

4. Pickup! Roll open your window or pop your trunk and staff will bring your bagged hold items out to your parking space for you. They will conveniently close your trunk if opened.

5. Pull out and enjoy your Library materials!

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If your child in grades K-12 is in need of reading help, this program is for you!

Designed to provide guidance to help empower and motivate children to become confident readers through enriching reading support sessions, the Library's free Reading Mentor Program offers a safe and welcoming learning environment with volunteer mentors who will work one-on-one with your child in half-hour increments.

Student sign-up sheets are available at Thomas Children's Department or online at wpl.lib.in.us/volunteer/

WPL TECH HELP


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




FREE SERVICE


For Tech Help,
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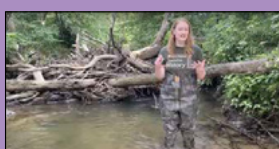
WPL YOUTUBE


 **WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

 **YouTube**

Check out the WPL YouTube channel and find a rich collection of videos from the Westchester Township History Museum featuring local history, notable Duneland residents, and facts about the dunes and lakeshore.


Duneland Ghost Towns Series



Everyday is Earth Day Series


Duneland's Swedish Immigrants Series


Becoming Westchester Township Series

Find the YouTube link at wpl.lib.in.us

**THE WiFi IS ON AT
ALL WPL LOCATIONS,
INSIDE AND OUT!**



**FREE
WiFi**

NEW MOVIE & TELEVISION SERIES RELEASES

TV Series: *Elio* // **Rating:** PG

Synopsis: Elio, a space fanatic with an active imagination, finds himself on a cosmic misadventure where he must form new bonds with eccentric alien lifeforms, navigate a crisis of intergalactic proportions and somehow discover who he is truly meant to be.

Movie Title: *Jurassic World: Rebirth* // **Rating:** PG-13

Synopsis: Five years after the events of *Jurassic World Dominion*, covert operations expert Zora Bennett is contracted to lead a skilled team on a top-secret mission to secure genetic material from the world's three most massive dinosaurs. When Zora's operation intersects with a civilian family whose boating expedition was capsized, they all find themselves stranded on an island where they come face-to-face with a sinister, shocking discovery that's been hidden from the world for decades.

Movie Title: *The Life of Chuck* // **Rating:** R

Synopsis: In this extraordinary story of an ordinary man, Charles 'Chuck' Krantz experiences the wonder of love, the heartbreak of loss, and the multitudes contained in all of us.

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