



WPL NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026

THE LIFE OF A LIBRARY BOOK

Have you ever wondered what happens to a book before it appears on the shelf?

Here at Westchester Public Library, the life of a library book begins when it is chosen specifically for the collection by a dedicated staff member. Sometimes these selections are based on requests from library users, sometimes they are based on published reviews from a variety of sources, including library journals or other review sites, and sometimes a particular subject or author is just very popular, so we try to buy as much as we can in order to satisfy the demand. Once the library has the name of the book we want to order, it is purchased from a book seller who ships it to us.

After the book arrives, it is carefully inspected to make sure it is not damaged. A specialized library clerk called a Cataloger takes the book and creates a detailed description of it. They check to make sure the information in the digital record is as accurate as possible, correcting errors and adding ways to make it findable for someone searching for it in the library catalog on our website. The Cataloger assigns a call number, creates a spine label, and gives each item a unique barcode. The staff member responsible for processing the book will apply protections to make the book last longer, such as tape to reinforce the book's spine, and stickers to make it easier to locate on the shelf. Then these new books are delivered to the libraries, checked in, and put on the shelf by our friendly and helpful staff. There the book will wait for some lucky patron to check it out!



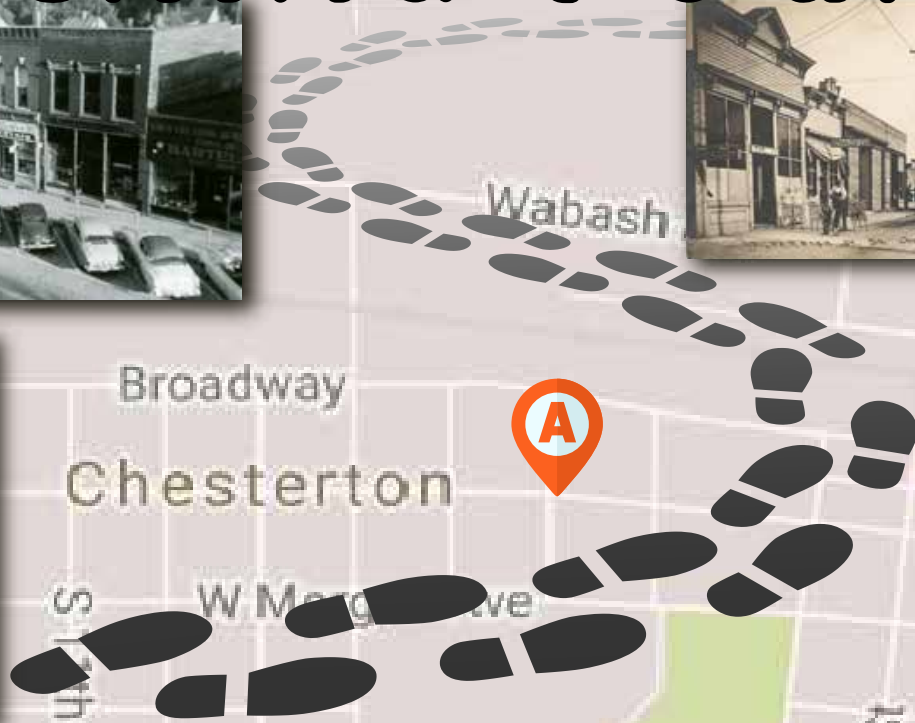
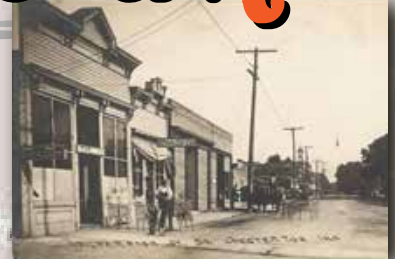
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**3RD
FRI**

#CHESTERTONARTSDISTRICT

Historic Chesterton WALKING TOUR



**FRIDAY, AUGUST 21
4-5:30 PM**

**The tour will leave from the BAUGHER CENTER,
100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton**

Join Westchester Township History Museum staff to learn about the history of downtown Chesterton and some of its most unique and historic buildings and houses.

Walking and standing required. Water bottle, hat, and sunscreen recommended. Tour lasts approximately 90 minutes.

Registration required and is limited to 20 people.

If a tour is canceled due to weather (rain, heat, air quality), it will not be rescheduled. Registration opens AUGUST 14.



REGISTER ONLINE AT WPL.LIB.IN.US OR CALL 219- 983-9715 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT





READING MENTOR PROGRAM



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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.



SCAN ME

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

THOMAS BRANCH • 200 W. INDIANA AVE., CHESTERTON, IN • 219-926-7696



ADULT CRAFT
Cow Quilt
ON CANVAS

Wednesday, August 26 • 1:30 PM

Join us for a beginner-friendly quilting experience with
Becky, the Recreation Director at Porter County Parks.
Make a cow quilt using fabric and canvas.

For adults ages 18 and up.

Baughner Center

Registration
opens
AUGUST 19

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



BAUGHER CENTER • 100 W. INDIANA AVE., CHESTERTON, IN • WPL.LIB.IN.US



Popular Books

DISCUSSION GROUP

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

Broken Country by Clare Leslie Hall

Beth and her gentle, kind husband Frank are happily married, but their relationship relies on the past staying buried. When Beth is forced to make a choice between the woman she once was, and the woman she has become, tensions around the village rise as dangerous secrets and jealousies from the past resurface. A sweeping love story with the pace and twists of a thriller, *Broken Country* is a novel of simmering passion, impossible choices, and explosive consequences that toggles between the past and present.



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: SEPTEMBER 14

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

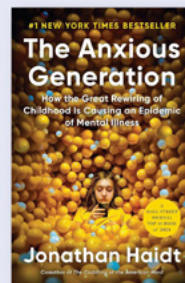


NIGHT OWL BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, August 19 • 6:30 PM
THOMAS BRANCH

The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt

Haidt has spent his career speaking truth backed by data in the most difficult landscapes — communities polarized by politics and religion, campuses battling culture wars, and now the public health emergency faced by Gen Z. We cannot afford to ignore his findings about protecting our children — and ourselves from the psychological damage of a phone-based life.



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

This program is for adults ages 18 and up.

Registration opens JULY 29

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

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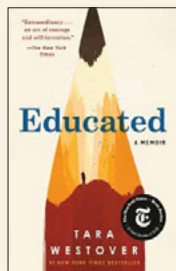
Popular Books

DISCUSSION GROUP

Monday, September 14 • 2-3:30 PM
THOMAS BRANCH

Educated by Tara Westover

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home.



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: OCTOBER 5

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WPL BOOK CLUB KITS



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

August

ONLINE AUTHOR TALKS

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

Nonfiction



**SMITHSONIAN
CURATOR:
PAULA J. JOHNSON**
Tuesday,
August 4th, 1 PM

Health & Wellness



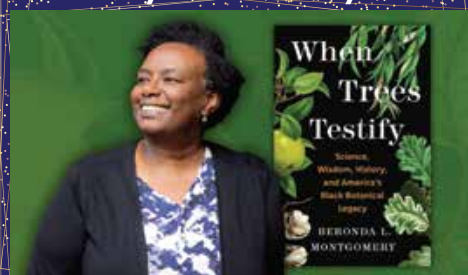
JANE CHEN
Wednesday,
August 5th, 11 AM

Cooking/Food



HOLLY CAPELLE
Thursday,
August 6th, 1 PM

Variety and Lifestyle



BERONDA MONTGOMERY
Tuesday,
August 25th, 1 PM

**REGISTER
FOR TALKS
HERE**



Fiction



LUCY FOLEY
Thursday,
August 27th, 1 PM

Get your steps in with a 1.5 mile walk leaving from the **THOMAS BRANCH**. New routes each week!

Miles & Smiles

WALKING CLUB

For Adults Ages 18 and Up

TUESDAYS, AUGUST 4 • 11 • 18 • 25
2-2:45 PM




Please note that walking and standing are required for this program. A water bottle, hat, and sunscreen is recommended. Hand weights are welcome. Walk lasts approximately 45 minutes. If a walk is canceled due to weather (rain/snow, temperature, air quality), it will not be rescheduled.

Registration is OPEN!
Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

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fiber arts circle

MONDAYS
AUGUST 3
SEPTEMBER 21
OCTOBER 19
1:00 PM

Join our Fiber Arts Circle and connect with fellow makers who love all things yarn and thread! Bring your knitting, crochet, embroidery, weaving, or any other fiber arts project to work on in a welcoming, creative space. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned artist, you'll have the chance to share ideas, ask questions, learn new techniques, and find inspiration. All skill levels are welcome.

For adults ages 18 and up.

BAUGHER CENTER
Registration is OPEN
Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your spot.

BAUGHER CENTER • 100 W. INDIANA AVE., CHESTERTON, IN • WPL.LIB.IN.US



OUTDOOR Fun and Games

Level up your outdoor play with yard games from WPL! Planning a cookout, family reunion, graduation party, or just a sunny day in the backyard? We've got your entertainment covered! Choose from classics like:

CORNHOLE • PICKLE BALL • LADDER TOSS • SPIKE BALL • YARD JENGA • AND MORE!

Swing by the Thomas Branch and borrow games for a week—completely FREE with your WPL card!

Watch the film on your own and gather to discuss with other movie lovers! This title is available to stream on Kanopy and on DVD at the library.

FILM DISCUSSION: THE LIFE OF CHUCK



**THURSDAY, AUGUST 20
6:30-7:30 PM**

A genre-bending tale celebrating the life of Charles "Chuck" Krantz, as he experiences the wonder of love, the heartbreak of loss and the multitudes contained in all of us.

For adults ages 18 and up.

Registration opens JULY 23

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

FILM DISCUSSION: ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT



**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
6:30-7:30 PM**

In Mumbai, Nurse Prabha's routine is troubled when she receives an unexpected gift from her estranged husband. Her younger roommate, Anu, tries in vain to find a spot in the city to be intimate with her boyfriend.

For adults ages 18 and up.

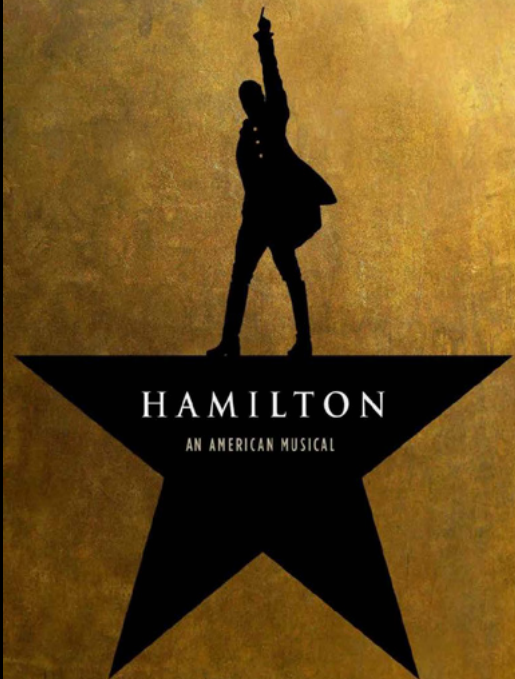
Registration opens AUGUST 20

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

BAUGHER CENTER



WPL'S SUNDAY MATINEE



RATED
PG-13

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23 AT 1:30 PM

BAUGHER CENTER

100 W. INDIANA AVENUE, CHESTERTON, IN

FREE
POPCORN!



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



WESTCHESTER
PUBLIC LIBRARY

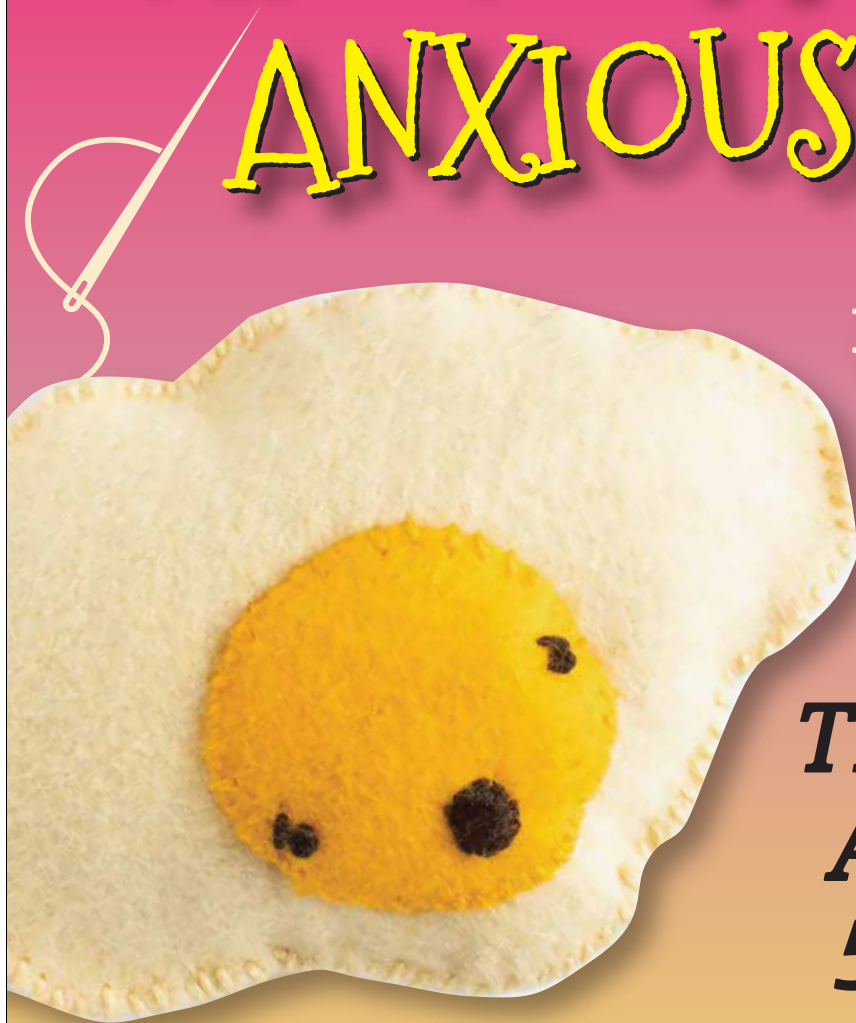
From our Hageman Branch Manager:

One of our regular patron families visits the library every week, and I've had the pleasure of getting to know them well. I've especially enjoyed helping their oldest daughter, who is six, find books on whatever topic has captured her imagination that week. Since she dreams of becoming an author, she has started bringing me her own handmade books.

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

SEWING AVA THE ANXIOUS EGG



FOR TWEENS &
TEENS IN
GRADES 5-12

**THURSDAY,
AUGUST 6
5:30-7 PM**

TEEN SPACE

Teens of all sewing abilities are invited to join us
as we sew Ava the Anxious Egg.

Registration opens JULY 30

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



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Craft Kit:

Pressed Flower Bookmarks

FOR TEENS & TWEENS IN GRADES 5-12

Register for this craft kit to make your own floral bookmarks.

Hageman Branch

REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 28

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

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

FOR TWEENS & TEENS IN GRADES 5-12

TEEN CHESS CLUB

SECOND FRIDAY
8/14 • 9/11 • 10/9
4:30-5:30 PM

Chess players of all skill levels are welcome to come play, learn, and socialize.

THOMAS BRANCH

Registration opens one week prior to the program dates.

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

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baebak.

대박 IT'S K-POP!

Bias Bracelets

FOR TWEENS IN GRADES 5-8

Thursday, August 20
5:30-7 PM

Calling all K-Pop fans! Join us as we chat about our biases, listen to music, and do activities. This month we will be making bracelets to show love for our faves.

Thomas Branch

Registration opens AUGUST 13

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

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ANIME & MANGA CLUB

STUDIO GHIBLI

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27
6-7 PM

FOR TWEENS IN GRADES 5-8

Our monthly meeting for fans to discuss and enjoy anime and manga. This month we will be focusing our main discussions on works by Studio Ghibli.

THOMAS TEEN SPACE

REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 20

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

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SOUR CANDY CHALLENGE

FOR TWEENS & TEENS IN GRADES 5-12

**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 3
4:30-5:30 PM**



Join us as we try a variety of different sour candies and see who can keep a straight face the longest.

HAGEMAN BRANCH

REGISTRATION OPENS
AUGUST 27

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



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FANDOM CHAT: INTRODUCTION

FOR TWEENS AND TEENS IN GRADES 7-12

**TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8
5:30- 6:30 PM**



**THOMAS
TEEN SPACE**

This is a social club to meet people who have the same interests, discover different fandoms, and learn how to be a respectful fan. This first meeting is an introduction to the club and we will decide on future meeting topics.

Registration opens SEPTEMBER 1

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



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MAGAZINES OF INTEREST



Ranger Rick (Thomas print & digital) (Juvenile)

This award-winning magazine is packed with articles about various animals and environmental topics. Games, activities, riddles, poetry, contests, fictional stories, and nature news are also included. Each issue features comic adventures of wildlife ambassadors Ranger Rick Raccoon, Scarlet Fox, and Boomer Badger. Kids ages 7+ are invited to both discover nature at an early age, and learn about conservation.



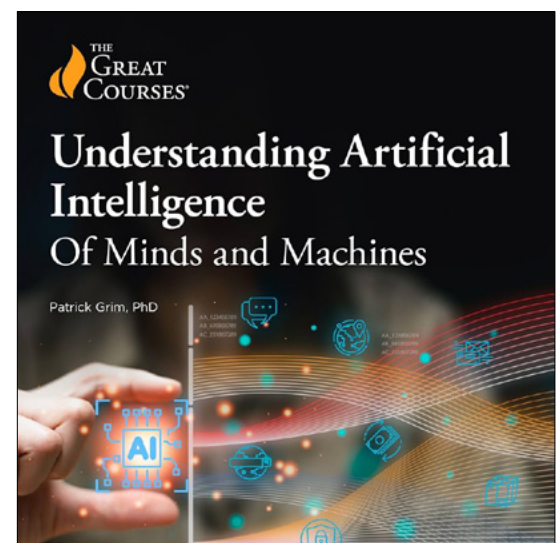
Us (formerly Us Weekly) (Thomas print & digital)

Us keeps the closest watch on the ever changing and ever exciting entertainment industry, unlike any other magazine. It takes you backstage at awards shows and sneaks you into celebrity parties. It peers into the minds (and dressing rooms) of the biggest stars, and escorts you around the world to see exactly where and with whom the hottest names have been hanging out. Get in-depth editorials on top personalities and stay on top of current developments in the world of entertainment

GREAT COURSES

Understanding Artificial Intelligence: Of Minds and Machines (DVD)

Philosopher Patrick Grim explains how digital circuits simulate intelligence, where they excel and fall short, what the future holds, and why the nightmare scenarios are probably unlikely but should be guarded against, nonetheless. He also considers the ethical implications of autonomous systems, which have been programmed to make decisions without human input. The AI future is accelerating. What will that future be?



FOR KIDS

FALL APPLES CRAFT KIT



For Kids in Grades K-4

Make apples to celebrate the start of fall.
Learn facts about apples and fall apple harvest.

***Registration for this kit opens
AUGUST 3***

Register online or call 219-926-7696 to reserve your kit.
This craft kit is picked up at THOMAS from August 10-17



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*** CRAFT KIT:**
*** SILLY**
*** CAMPFIRE**
*** MAGNET**

FOR KIDS AGES 2-5

Welcome the coming fall season by creating a silly campfire magnet. Can't you almost smell the hot cocoa and toasted marshmallow?

THOMAS BRANCH

Registration opens AUGUST 17

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

This kit is picked up at THOMAS from August 24-30.



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CRAFTERNOONS
PICK-UP CRAFT KIT
 at the Hageman Branch

MONKEY PAPER BAG PUPPETS




For Kids Ages 2-6

Bring a playful monkey to life with this fun take-home craft kit! Once assembled, they can use their puppet for imaginative play, storytelling, and plenty of monkey business.

Registration opens AUGUST 25

Register online or call 219-926-9080 to reserve your kit. This craft kit may be picked up at HAGEMAN from SEPTEMBER 1-8.

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For Families with Children Ages 0-3

Books Blocks Balls



No registration required.

FIRST THINGS FIRST PORTER COUNTY

PCPLS PORTER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Help Me Grow Porter County

Connect with early childhood specialists and local organizations such as First Things First Porter County and Help Me Grow Porter County, which will provide families and caregivers with play opportunities in line with developmental milestones, as well as information about local resources.

AUGUST 19
10:30-11:15 AM
HAGEMAN BRANCH
 100 FRANCIS ST., PORTER, IN
 219-926-9080

SEPTEMBER 2
4-4:45 PM
THOMAS CHILDREN'S DEPT
 200 W. INDIANA AVE., CHESTERTON, IN
 219-926-7696 • WPL.LIB.IN.US



STORYTIMES

Toddler Time

For Toddlers Ages 2-3 and Their Caregivers
Join Miss Cindy for storytime. Together we will read, sing, create, and learn through play and our senses.

MONDAYS 10-10:30 or 11-11:30 AM
9/14 • 9/21 • 9/28 • 10/5 • 10/12 • 10/19

THOMAS CHILDREN'S DEPT. Registration opens **SEPTEMBER 4**

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

TUESDAYS, 10-10:30 AM or 11-11:30 AM
9/15 • 9/22 • 9/29 • 10/6 • 10/13 • 10/20

FRIDAYS, 10-10:30 AM
9/18 • 9/25 • 10/2 • 10/9 • 10/16 • 10/23

Registration opens **SEPTEMBER 8**

Tickle Tales

HAGEMAN BRANCH

Little Explorers ALL ABOUT FALL

THOMAS BRANCH

For Kids Ages 4-6 and Their Caregivers
Join us for stories about fall and discover the wonders of this seasonal change.

THURSDAYS 4-4:30 PM
9/17 • 9/24 • 10/1
10/8 • 10/15 • 10/22

Registration opens **SEPTEMBER 10**

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



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DUNELAND HISTORY CENTER



MUSIC AT THE LIBRARY

Join the Flashbacks in the Bertha Wood Room 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 comprised of Suzanne Keldsen, Jim Nelson, Marti Pizzini, and Lynn Edgemon. This program is for all ages.

**THURSDAY,
AUGUST 13**
2 - 3 PM

THOMAS BRANCH

For more information call 219-983-9715.

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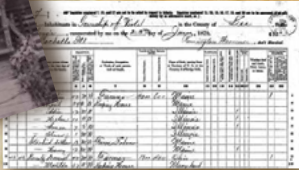
Discover Your Family History at Westchester Public Library



Genealogy and Research Workstations including

 **ancestry library edition**

**Now Available at
our Thomas Branch,
Hageman Branch,
and Duneland
History Center**

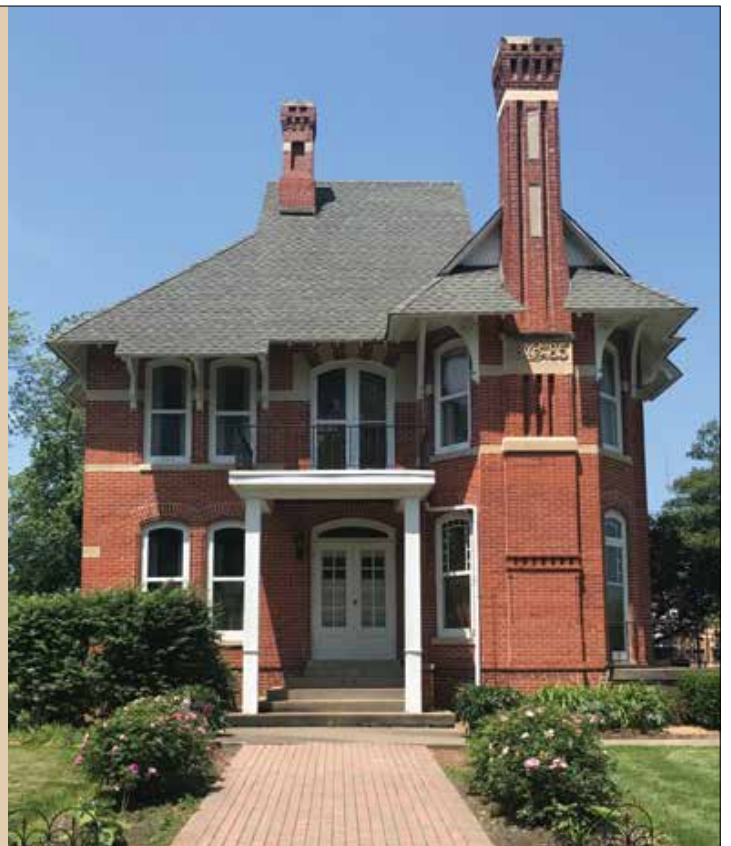
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DUNELAND HISTORY CENTER • 700 W. Porter Ave., Chesterton • 219-983-9715



DUNELAND HISTORY CENTER

EXHIBITS • TOURS • RESEARCH
DUNELANDHISTORYCENTER.ORG

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Access WPL's
virtual library
resources
anytime on
your electronic
devices!



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



Libby

eBooks, Audiobooks,
and eMagazines



hoopla

eBooks, Audiobooks, eMovies,
eMusic, eComics and more



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 Go? The Sea, 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

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

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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/

contents

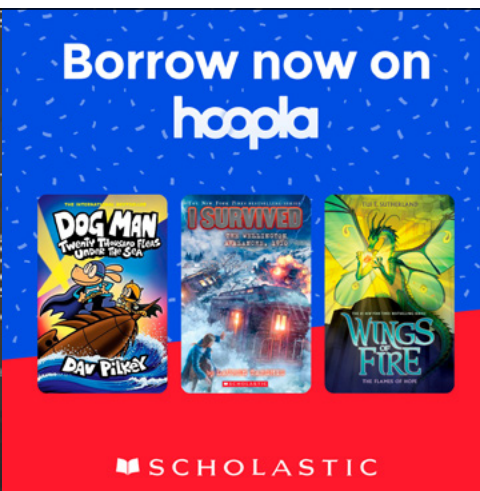
IGV magazine

cool stuff
a year of DIY projects

Your favorite magazines, available on your device.

Libby.
The library reading app

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



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



Back To School!

Read. Listen. Learn.

Enjoy ebooks and audiobooks on
your device, whenever and wherever.



Libby.

The library reading app

CURBSIDE PICKUP

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



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.

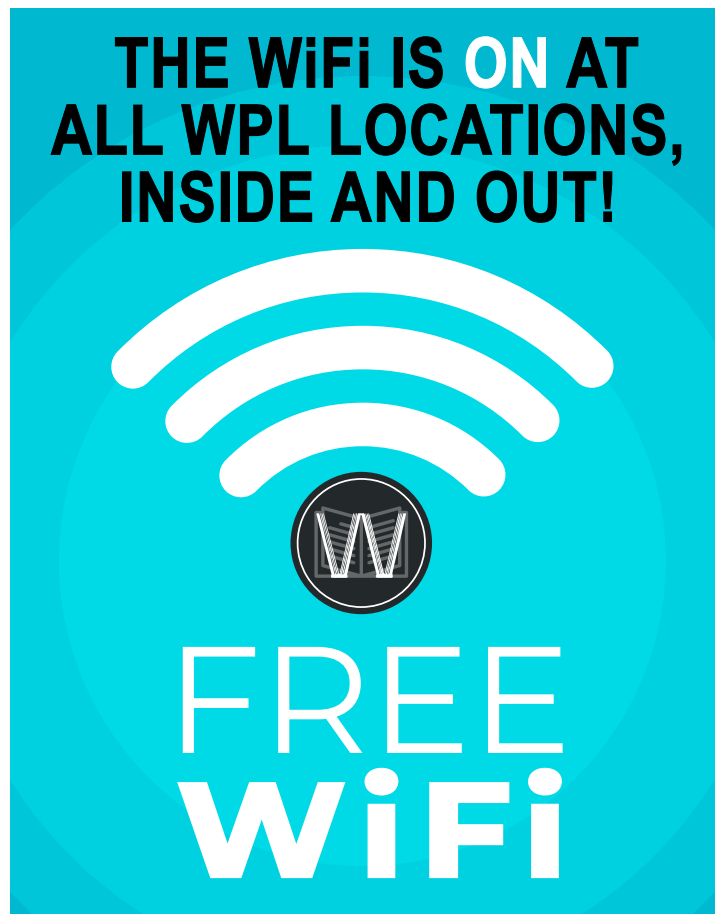
Duneland Ghost Towns Series

Everyday is Earth Day Series

Duneland's Swedish Immigrants Series

Becoming Westchester Township Series

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



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NEW MOVIE & TELEVISION SERIES RELEASES

TV Series: *The Last Whale Singer* // **Rating:** PG

Synopsis: A coming-of-age story about a young whale who must overcome self-doubt and find his voice to protect the ocean he calls home.

Movie Title: *The Devil Wears Prada 2* // **Rating:** PG-13

Synopsis: Andy Sachs returns to *Runway* as Miranda Priestly navigates a new media landscape and *Runway's* position within. The duo reconnect with former assistant Emily Charlton, now the head of a luxury brand that possesses funding which could ensure *Runway's* survival.

Movie Title: *Pressure* // **Rating:** PG-13

Synopsis: In the tense 72 hours before D-Day, and the fate of the free world hanging in the balance, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and Captain James Stagg face an impossible choice—launch the largest and most dangerous seaborne invasion in history or risk losing the war altogether.

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