Scan to register for library events.



www.wellscolibrary.org

Bluffton—Main Library

200 West Washington Street Bluffton, Indiana 46714 260-824-1612 Monday—Thursday 9 am to 8 pm Friday 9 am to 6 pm Saturday 9 am to 2 pm

Ossian Branch Library 207 North Jefferson Street Ossian, Indiana 46777 260-622-4691 Monday—Thursday 9 am to 8 pm Friday 9 am to 5 pm Saturday 9 am to Noon



Connect With Us on...

Vol. 34 No. 1 The Book Report is now published three times a year by the Wells County Public Library.

Sign up today to be a Friend of the Wells County Public Library

Through membership dues and funds raised at our used books sales, the Friends of the Library assist in important library programs that are not supported by taxes, including 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, Summer Reading Program, Winter Reading Program, and much more. If you are interested in being a Friend of the Library, please complete the following form.

	(CIRCLE ONE) STUDENT (through age 18) INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY PATRON SPONSOR	\$2 \$10 \$25 \$50		Renewals due annually each April. Return this form and your payment in person or mail to: Wells County Public Library - Attn: Friends of the Library 200 W. Washington Street Bluffton, Indiana 46714 (Make checks payable to the "Friends of the Library")
NAME:			_ ADDRESS: _	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
PHONE:			_ EMAIL:	

Library Closings: New Years: Wednesday, Jan. 1

> President's Day: Monday, February 17

Easter: Friday, April 18 & Saturday, April 19

In-Service: Friday, April 25

Memorial Day: Saturday, May 24 & Monday, May 26

Wells County Public Library News



A WINTER ESCAPE



Do you want to be on the Friend's board? YES NO Or a Friend's volunteer (help with book sales, events, etc)? YES NO





January-May 2025 In this Issue...

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•



Winter Book Sale

Used books, movies, audio books, DVDs, and more.

Hours: Februarv 4: 5-8 pm (Friends only preview). Memberships are available at the door.

February 5-8: open during library hours

Sponsored by The Friends of the Library

Mini Golf Fundraiser

Bluffton: Friday, February 21: 10 am-6 pm and Saturday, February 22: 10 am-2 pm



The Wells County Public Library is hosting our 3rd annual library Mini Golf Fundraiser. There will be 18-holes of mini golf set up throughout the first floor of the Main Library (Bluffton)

on Friday, February 21 and Saturday, February 22. Stop by at the times listed above and for a small fee, you'll get to play a fun round of mini golf, while helping the library raise funds for the Friends of the Library, which help support and fund library programs for children, teens, and adults.

The library is also seeking sponsorships for the event. If your business or organization is interested, please contact Emily Marshall at emarshall@wellscolibrary.org or 260-824-1612.

2024 Year in Review



PERIL IN PINEBROOK

Teen D&D for **Beginners**

Bluffton: Tuesday, March 25 or

Friday, March 28: 2-4 pm Grades 6-12. Are you interested in Dungeons & Dragons but are new to tabletop role-playing games? Use your spring break to learn how to play! We'll be playing the 60-90 minute

introductory adventure, Peril in Pinebrook. This adventure is meant for completely new players to learn the basics of the game. Registration required to guarantee your spot. Please pick only one session (25th or 28th). Dice and Level 1 Character Sheets will be provided.

Teen Anime Meet-Up

Bluffton: Tuesday, April 22: 6:00-7:30 pm Grades 6-12. Join us for a night of all things anime! We'll have Japanese snacks and a Studio Ghibli movie playing. There will be trivia, voting contests and crafts available as well. Movie may be rated up to PG. This is a drop-in program, registration is not required.



Teen Finals Week De-Stress!

Thursday, May 15: 3:30-4:30 pm Grades 6-12. Is the end of the school year getting you down? Then join us for an hour of relaxation! Learn how to

guard your mental health and stay productive with a series of de-stress techniques. This is a drop-in event, registration is not required.





Ossian Branch Events

All events are free. Register at the library, online at wellscolibrary.org, or call 260-622-4691.

Teen Food Fun

Ossian: 2nd Thursday of the month from 3-4 pm Grades 6-12. Get hands-on experience creating interesting and fun treats. Drop-in event, no registration needed.

- Jan. 9 Popcorn Pot Pourri
- Feb. 13 Chocolate Dipping
- Mar. 13 Glow-in-the-Dark Foods
- Apr. 10 Making Boba Balls

Follow us...

On Instagram (wellscountypubliclibrary) for fun posts and teen book recommendations.

Programming made possible by the Wells County Foundation











Monthly Programs

All events are free. Register at the library, online at wellscolibrary.org, or call 260-824-1612.

Teen Gaming Club

Bluffton: Jan. 6, Feb. 3, Mar. 3, Apr. 7, and May 5 Meets the first Monday of the month from 6-7 pm Grades 6-12. Enjoy a variety of different games each month, including video games, trading card games, and board games. Bring your own device or play the library's console on a big screen. No registration needed.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB)

Bluffton: Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Mar. 26, Apr. 30, and May 28 Meets the last Wednesday of the month from 6:00-6:45 pm Grades 6-12. Do you wish you had a say in Teen Programming at the Library? Do you need volunteer credit? Join the Teen Advisory Board. You don't need to sign up. just show up for the meetings. We hope to see you there!

Teen Book Club

Bluffton: Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm Grades 6-12. Join us as we discuss the selected book for the month, enjoy snacks, and activities. *Register at the* library to receive a copy of the book.

- Jan. 9 "The Fixer" by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
- Feb. 13 "AI Capone Does My Shirts" by Gennifer Choldenko
- Mar. 13 "Dragon Slippers" by Jessica Day George
- "Enola Homes: The Case of the Missing Apr. 10 Marquess" by Nancy Springer



Special Events

Teen Cozy Crafting

Bluffton: Monday, January 20, 3:30-4:30 pm Grades 6-12. Enjoy some hot cocoa after school! Even better, drink that hot cocoa out of a mug that you've just customized to fit your own personal style. This is a drop-in event, no registration required. One mug per teen, while supplies last.

Winter Reading

During the month of February, sign up at the library, online at wellscolibrary.org, or via the READsquared app to participate in our Winter Reading challenge. Read just 300 pages for the month and get a coupon for a free Personal

Pan Pizza from Pizza Hut and a chance to win a prize basket. Participate in a Travel Bonus for extra entries in the gift basket drawings. All pages read will count towards



our community goal. The more pages read, the more books we donate to Kate's Kart, which gives books to hospitalized children at Bluffton Regional Medical Center. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library and Pizza Hut.

Teen Tropical Tastes

Bluffton: Tuesday, February 18: 6-7 pm

Grades 6-12. Teens will learn how to make tostones (fried plantains) and morir soñandos (a citrus smoothie). We may not be able to bring the Caribbean beach to Indiana, but join

us and learn how to make some delicious Dominican food to help celebrate Winter Reading! Registration required, to make sure there is enough food for all participants.





All ages: Join our Winter Reading challenge and help us donate books to hospitalized children via the Kate's Kart organization. It's super easy to participate. Sign up at the library, online at wellscolibrary.org, or via the READsquared app anytime during the month of February. If you read at least 300 pages you will get a coupon for a free Personal Pan Pizza from Pizza Hut and a chance to win a prize basket. Then if together as a group we can read the total number of pages listed in the chart on the right, we will get to donate books to Kate's Kart. The more we read, the more we can donate, so every page read helps us reach our goal! You can also complete activities in the Travel Bonus for extra entries into the drawings for the prize baskets.



Teen Tropical Tastes

Bluffton: Tuesday, February 18: 6-7 pm

Grades 6-12. Teens will learn how to make tostones (fried plantains) and morir soñandos (a citrus smoothie). We may not be able to bring the Caribbean beach to Indiana, but join us and learn how to make some delicious Dominican food to help celebrate Winter Reading! Registration required, to make sure there is enough food for all participants.



Winter Reading

Participate in our annual Winter Reading challenge during the month of February.

Community Goal to read 500,000+ pages to donate books to Kate's Kart

- 100,000 pages read = 25 books donated
- 200,000 pages read = 50 books donated
- 300,000 pages read = 75 books donated
- 400,000 pages read = 100 books donated
- 500,000+ pages read = 125 books donated

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library and Pizza Hut.



Mocktails & Music

Bluffton: Monday, February 24: 6:30-7:30 pm Adults. Join us for a special Winter Reading themed Try It Night where you can make and taste a variety of tropic mocktails, learn some techniques to garnish with fruit, and listen to music that will make you feel like you are relaxing on the beach. All supplies provided. Registration required.

Top 10 Checkouts for 2024

Fiction:

- "The Women" by Kristin Hannah
- "The Teacher" by Freida McFadden
- "The Housemaid" by Freida McFadden
- "The Housemaid's Secret" by Freida McFadden
- "Fourth Wing" by Rebecca Yarros
- "Never Lie" by Freida McFadden
- "Iron Flame" by Rebecca Yarros
- "The Secret" by Lee Child and Andrew Child
- "The Housemaid is Watching" by Freida McFadden
- "Ugly Love" by Colleen Hoover

Non-fiction:

- "Taste of Home Grandma's Favorites"
- "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance
- "The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Olympics" by Daniel James Brown
- "Oath and Honor: A Memoir and a Warning" by Liz Chenev
- "Lego Space: 1978-1992" by Tim Johnson
- "The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness" by Jonathan Haidt
- "Throwbacks Home Interiors: One of a Kind Home Design from Reclaimed and Salvaged Goods" by Bo Shepherd and Kyle Dubay
- "Taste of Home's Quick Cooking Annual Recipes"
- "Taste of Home Annual Recipes"
- "Spare" by Prince Harry

Movies/TV Series:

- "Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie"
- "Wonka"
- "Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny"
- "Unsung Hero"

Movies/TV Series (cont.):

- "The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes"
- "Barbie"
- "Venom: Let there be Carnage"
- "Black Panther"
- "Jurassic World"
- "Trolls Band Together"

Kids:

- "Frog and Toad Together" by Arnold Lobel
- "Guinness World Records"
- "Meet Tracker!" by Geof Smith and Jason Fruchter
- "Froggy Gets Dressed" by Jonathan London
- "Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes" by James Dean and Eric Litwin
- "Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons" by James Dean and Eric Litwin
- "Dog Man Unleased" by Dav Pilkey
- "Pete the Kitty's Outdoor Art Project" by Kimberly and James Dean
- "I Can Be a Horse Rider" adapted by Mary Man-Kong
- "Boy-Crazy Stacey: A Graphic Novel" by Gale Galligan and Ann M. Martin

Teen:

- "Garfield the Big Cheese" by Jim Davis
- "Garfield Souped Up" by Jim Davis
- "The Maze Runner" by James Dashner
- "Throne of Glass" by Sarah J. Maas
- "Garfield Cooks Up Trouble" by Jim Davis
- "Garfield Cleans His Plate" by Jim Davis
- "Garfield. Garzilla" by Jim Davis
- "The Hawthorne Legacy" by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
- "The One" by Kiera Cass
- "The Legend of Zelda Encyclopedia"



Saturday at the Movies

Bluffton: Third Saturday of each month at 11 am All ages. Enjoy a family-friendly movie. Drop-in event.

ages. Enjoy	a farming mentaly movie.
Jan. 18	"Wish" (PG)
Feb. 15	"The Bad Guys" (PG)
Mar. 15	"Elemental" (PG)
Apr. 12	"Harold and the
	Purple Crayon" (PG)
May 17	"Onward" (PG)



Winter Reading: A Winter Escape

Bluffton and Ossian: February 1-29

All ages. If you read 300 pages or more, then you'll get a coupon for a free Personal Pan Pizza from Pizza Hut and will

be entered into a drawing to win a prize basket. Earn extra entries into the drawing by completing activities in the Travel Bonus If we read more than 500,000+ pages as a group, we will donate 125 books to Kate's Kart. Sign up at the library or wellscolibrary.org.

Join us each week for stories, fingerplays, and activities. Must be registered to attend all story sessions. Registration starts Jan. 20 at the library and online at wellscolibrary.org. Sessions start in February.

BLUFFTON STORY SESSIONS:

Wee Read: Ages Birth-24 Months (with adult) Fridays at 10:00 am

Toddler Time: Ages 2-3 (with adult) Tuesdays or Wednesdays at 9:45 am

Story Hour: Ages 4-6 Tuesdays or Wednesdays at 10:30 am

Family Storytime: Ages 1-5 (with adult) Thursdays at 10:00 am







Ossian Branch Events

LEGO Drop-In

Ossian: Jan. 28, Feb. 25, Mar. 25, and Apr. 29 Meets the last Tuesday of the month from 4-7 pm Grades K-6. Create LEGO masterpieces, using blocks provided by the library. Drop-in event. No registration needed.



Crafty Kids

Ossian: Feb. 10, Mar. 10, Apr. 14, and May 12 Meets the 2nd Monday of the month from 3:30-5:30 pm School-age kids. Drop-in for a different craft each month. No registration needed.

Story Sessions

OSSIAN STORY SESSIONS:

Wee Read: Ages Birth-30 months (with adult) Fridays at 10:30 am

Storytime: Ages 2 1/2-Pre K Tuesdays at 10:30 am

Stop by our **StoryWalks**[®] at Pickett's Run Park in Bluffton or Archbold Wilson Park in Ossian. Also, ioin our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program to help prepare your younger children for school and life-long learning.

Events for Kids and Families

All events are free. Register for events at the library, online at www.wellscolibrary.org, or call 260-824-1612 (Bluffton); 260-622-4691 (Ossian). Registration is suggested for all events, but required only when stated in the listing.

Special Events & Activities

Children's Book Clubs

Grades 1-2 - Bluffton: Jan. 7. Feb. 4. Mar. 4. and Apr. 1 Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm

Grades 3-4 - Bluffton: Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 11, and Apr. 8 Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm

Grades 5-6 - Bluffton: Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 13, and Apr. 10 Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm

Books available for pick-up when you register. Registration required.



Tail Waggin' Tutors and Therapy Dogs International

Bluffton: Does your child need practice reading? Read to Oria on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month from 3:30-4:30 pm and read to Reddington on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month from 3:30-4:30 pm. Feel free to call ahead to make sure the dogs will be here for your visit, since sometimes schedules can change last minute. No registration needed.

Family Block Day

Bluffton: Wednesday, January 15: 10 am-7 pm All ages. Enjoy several different types of blocks for kids of various ages in the Children's Room. Drop-in event.



Kids' Club

Bluffton: Jan. 21, Feb. 18, Mar. 18, and Apr. 22 Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm Grades K-3. Book-related crafts, stories, games, and a chance to make new friends. Registration appreciated.

Club 456

Bluffton: 3rd Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:00 pm Grades 4-6. Continue traveling around the world during Club 456 this year. Each month will focus on learning about a different country, with fun activities, food, and more. Registration appreciated.

Jan. 16 China Feb. 20 United Kingdom Mar. 20 France Apr. 17 Egypt





Stories in Music with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic

Bluffton: Thursday, Feb. 13: 7 pm

All ages. The Fort Wayne Philharmonic will be at the library for this free Stories in Music Community Ensemble show! Featuring The Resonators and "Carnival of the Animals." narrated by Philharmonic staff member Jonah Farnum. Perfect for the entire family. Registration appreciated.

Discover Films in Kanopy

Kanopy offers more than 30,000 films, including critically acclaimed movies, inspiring documentaries, award-winning foreign films, and more. There are a number of ways you can access.

1.) Go directly to kanopy.com/wellscountylibrary

2.) Use the Kanopy app

3.) Kanopy displays in the Extras section of the Libby app. After selecting Kanopy in Libby, you'll be directed to the Kanopy platform to learn more and get started.



Try Something New this Year!



Checkout for 7 days with your library card!



hoopla

Tap into Discovery



Tech Help Sessions

Timeless Tech

Bluffton: Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 11, Apr. 8, and May 13 Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 1:00-2:30 pm Adults. Each month has a different tech focus and there is plenty of time for questions. All skill levels are welcome. Bring a smart phone or tablet with you or use one of ours. Registration appreciated your first visit.

Intro to the Computer & Internet

Bluffton: Thursday, March 13 and Tuesday, March 18 from 6-8 pm

Adults. This two-part, beginning-level computer class will cover everything from how to turn on the computer, using the mouse and keyboard, working with Windows, and basic computer terminology. You will also learn about using the Internet search engine Google and exploring the library's website. No computer experience needed. You will use the library's computers during class, so no need to bring your own. Registration required.



fun activity or craft that you can take home to complete.

Pick up at the Information Desk on the second floor of the Main Library (Bluffton) or the Ossian Branch starting on the date listed, while supplies last.

- Chex Mix Feb. 1
- Mar. 1 Yarn Basket
- Apr. 1 Lavender Sachet



Special & Monthly Events

All events are free. Register at the library, online at wellscolibrary.org, or call 260-824-1612.

Genealogy/Local History Club

Bluffton: Jan. 2, Feb. 6, Mar. 6, Apr. 3, and May 1 Meets the first Thursday of the month from 5:00-6:30 pm Ages 12+. Members help each other, learn new things, and obtain a greater appreciation for local history and genealogy research. Registration appreciated.

Bingo with Jason

Bluffton: Jan. 6, Feb. 3, Mar. 3, Apr. 7, and May 5 Meets the first Monday of the month from 3:00-4:30 pm Adults. Enjoy a lively game of Bingo with everyone's favorite librarian named Jason! Registration required.

Living Abroad in China: **An American's Story**

Bluffton: Thursday, Jan. 30: 6:30-7:30 pm

Adults. Doug Sparks will give a talk about his time living abroad in China, including cultural differences in daily life

and business, food, travel, and more. Doug is the author of the recently published book "A Decade in the Chinese Semiconductor Industry: An American's Story," which will also be for sale at the event. Registration appreciated.



Theater Thursday

Bluffton: Third Thursday of each month at 10 am

- Jan. 16 "No Time to Die" (PG-13)
- Feb. 20 "The Fall Guy" (PG-13)
- Mar. 20 "Arthur The King" (PG-13)
- Apr. 17 "Twisters" (PG-13)
- "Fly Me to the Moon" (PG-13) Mav 15

Adults. Enjoy a movie, popcorn, and refreshments. Sponsored by Bluffton Parks & Recreation and the Friends of the Library. No registration needed.

Trivia Nights @ The Parlor City Brewing Company Sundays, Jan. 12, Mar. 9, and May 11: 5:00-6:30 pm Adults (21+). Grab a team of up to four people and test your knowledge on a variety of subjects, from pop culture, sports, local history, and other trivia categories. Prizes awarded; space is limited. Sign up at the library or online at wellscolibrary.org.

Free Tax Help

Bluffton: Select Mondays from Jan. 27-Apr. 14 Adults. The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide will once again be offering free tax preparation at the Main Library on select Mondays. To schedule your appointment, stop by the Information Desk at the Main Library or call 260-824-1612.

Try It Nights

Bluffton: last Monday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm Adults and Teens. Create or try out a new craft each month. All supplies provided. Registration required.

- Waterless Snowglobes Jan. 27
- Feb. 24 Mocktails & Music
- Mar. 24 Tetra Pak Printing
- Apr. 28 **Book Pendants**
- Q-tip flowers May 19

Golden Gamers

Bluffton: Jan. 28, Feb. 25, Mar. 25, Apr. 22, and May 27 Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month from 3-5 pm

Adults. Are you bored? Do you need some social interaction? Come and enjoy two hours of socializing, games, and snacks. Registration appreciated.



Fort Wayne Philharmonic Performance

Bluffton: Thursday, February 13: 7 pm

All ages. The Fort Wayne Philharmonic will be at the library for this free Stories in Music Community Ensemble show! Featuring The Resonators and "Carnival of the Animals," narrated by Philharmonic staff member Jonah Farnum. Perfect for the entire family. Registration appreciated.

Mocktails & Music

Bluffton: Monday, February 24: 6:30-7:30 pm Adults. Join us for a special Winter Reading themed Try It Night where you can make and taste a variety of tropic mocktails, learn some techniques to garnish with fruit, and listen to music that will make you feel like you are relaxing on the beach. All supplies provided. Registration required.



Cook, Talk, Taste

Bluffton: Mar. 11, Apr. 8, and May 13 Meets the second Tuesday of the month from 6-7 pm (except for in January and February)



Adults. Enjoy the tastiest club at the library. Each month will be a different hostess or theme. Registration appreciated.

Euchre for Fun

Bluffton: Thursday, March 27: 6:30-7:30 pm Adults. Join us for an evening of euchre during Spring Break Week. No tournament, it's all just for fun and all skill levels! Bring a partner or get matched with one there. Refreshments will be served. Registration appreciated.

All events are free. Register at the library, online at wellscolibrary.org, or call 260-622-4691.

Calming Coloring

Ossian: Tuesdays from 1-3 pm Adults. Drop-in for a stress-busting afternoon featuring adult coloring in a restful setting with soft music and snacks. No registration needed.

Board Game Night

Ossian: Jan. 16, Feb. 20, Mar. 20, Apr. 17, & May 15 Meets the third Thursday of the month from 6-8 pm Adults (18+). Join us for a night of tabletop games at the Ossian Branch. Registration appreciated.

Brown Ba	g Book Club				
Bluffton: Second Monday of each month at 1:30 pm					
Jan. 13	A book you received for Christmas				
Feb. 10	"Rebecca" by Daphne du Maurier				
Mar. 10	"One Hundred Years of Solitude" by Gabriel García Márquez				
Apr. 14	"Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison				
May 12	"Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Brontë				
General B	ook Discussions				
Bluffton: Sec	cond Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm				
Pick up a co	py of the book at the Main Library prior to				
the discussion	on.				
Jan. 9	"The Lincoln Highway" by Amor Towles				
Feb. 13	"The Supremes at Earl's All-You-Can-				
	Eat" by Edward Kelsey Moore				
Mar. 13	"The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind" by William Kamkwamba				
Apr. 10	"Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk" by				

Ossian Branch Events

Date Night at the Library

Ossian: Tuesday, February 11: 6:30-7:30 pm Adults couples only. Join us as we fashion a culinary creation as a couple. Registration required.