

The **B** **O** **O** **K** Report

Wells County Public Library News

Winter Reading

READ. RELAX. REPEAT.



January-May 2026

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Mini Golf Fundraiser

Bluffton: Friday, February 27: 10 am-6 pm and Saturday, February 28: 10 am-2 pm
Family Fun Night: Friday, February 27: 6-9 pm

The Wells County Public Library is hosting our 4th annual library Mini Golf Fundraiser. There will be 18-holes of mini golf set up throughout the first floor of the Main Library (Bluffton). Stop by at the times listed above and for a \$5 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 all ages.



Family Fun Night

Bluffton: Friday, February 27: 6-9 pm

New this year there will be a Family Fun Night on Friday evening. For a \$10 fee, attendees can play mini golf, laser tag, and arcade-style games. There will also be snacks and a fun atmosphere for all ages to enjoy. Ages 2 and under are free.

Sponsors Needed

If your business or organization is interested in sponsoring a golf hole for the event or interested in bulk tickets, please contact Emily Marshall at emarshall@wellscolibrary.org for 260-824-1612.

2025 Year in Review



Winter Reading

READ. RELAX. REPEAT.



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

All ages. Join our Winter Reading challenge and help us donate books to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which mails free books to children from birth until they begin school. 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'll get a coupon for a free Personal Pan Pizza from Pizza Hut or a mini blizzard from Dairy Queen 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 donate books to the Imagination Library. The more we read, the more we donate, so every page read helps us reach our goal! You can also complete activities in the Cozy Bonus for extra entries into the drawings for the prize baskets.

Community Goal to read 500,000+ pages to donate books to Imagination Library

- 100,000 pages read = Books for 1 kid/year
- 200,000 pages read = Books for 2 kids/year
- 300,000 pages read = Books for 3 kids/year
- 400,000 pages read = Books for 4 kids/year
- 500,000+ pages read = Books for 5 kids/year

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Pizza Hut, and Dairy Queen.



Junk Journal DIY Club

Bluffton: Wednesdays, January 14, January 28, February 11, and February 25: 5:30-7:00 pm
Adults/Teens. Transform a blank journal with various craft supplies or taking an existing book and alter it in this perfect winter activity. Join one or all four of the sessions and work on different parts of the journal each time. All supplies provided or bring items from home. *Registration appreciated.*



Hygge Night

Bluffton: Friday, February 13: 4:30-6:00 pm
All ages. Drop in to enjoy the cozy fireplace in the Parlor, warm drinks, snacks, and being read to while coloring, painting, or doing needlecrafts. Blankets from home to cozy up with are welcome! *Registration is not required, but feel free to sign up with an email or phone number for a reminder.*

Top 10 Checkouts for 2025

Fiction:

- “Never Lie” by Freida McFadden
- “The Housemaid is Watching” by Freida McFadden
- “Counting Miracles” by Nicholas Sparks
- “Onyx Storm” by Rebecca Yarros
- “The Locked Door” by Freida McFadden
- “Great Big Beautiful Life” by Emily Henry
- “The Women” by Kristin Hannah
- “The Housemaid” by Freida McFadden
- “The Summer of You and Me” by Denise Hunter
- “Nobody’s Fool” by Harlan Coben

Non-fiction:

- “Taste of Home Annual Recipes”
- “The Madness of John Terrell: Revenge and Insanity on Trial in the Heartland” by Stephen Terrell
- “The Let Them Theory: A Life-changing Tool that Millions of People Can’t Stop Talking About” by Mel Robbins
- “Melania” by Melanie Trump
- “The House of My Mother: A Daughter’s Quest for Freedom” by Shari Franke
- “Vintage Recipes Made Easy” - Taste of Home books
- “A Very Short History of the Israel-Palestine Conflict” by Ilan Pappé
- “Karen: A Brother Remembers” by Kelsey Grammer
- “Half Baked Harvest Quick & Cozy” by Tieghan Gerard
- “Under His Wings: How Faith on the Front Lines has Protected American Troops” by Emily Campagno

Movies/TV Series:

- “Wicked”
- “Twisters”
- “The Wild Robot”
- “PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie”
- “Inside Out 2”

Movies/TV Series (cont.):

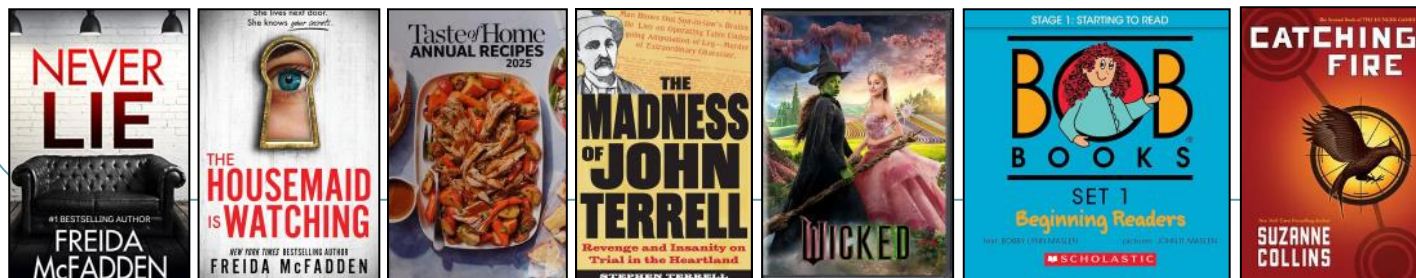
- “Moana 2”
- “Captain America: Brave New World”
- “Unsung Hero”
- “The Lost City”
- “Despicable Me 4”

Kids:

- “Bob Books. Set 1: Beginning Readers” by Bobby Lynn Maslen
- “Pete the Cat: Snow Daze” by James Dean
- “Guinness World Records”
- “Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days” by Jeff Kinney
- “Five Little Monkeys Count and Trace” by Eileen Christelow
- “Dog Man: A Brawl of the Wild” by Dav Pilkey
- “Bob Books. Stage 1: Starting to Read, First Stories” by Lynn Maslen Kertell
- “A Big Guy Took My Ball!” by Mo Willems
- “Dora’s Backpack” by Sarah Willson, Eric Weiner, and Robert Roper
- “Clifford the Firehouse Dog” by Norman Bridwell

Teen:

- “Catching Fire” by Suzanne Collins
- “Cinder” by Marissa Meyer
- “Solo Leveling. 1” by Ch’ugong
- “Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25” by Richard Paul Evans
- “Garfield: Full Course” by Jim Davis
- “Powerless” by Lauren Roberts
- “Garfield Rounds Out” by Jim Davis
- “Garfield, Home Cookin’” by Jim Davis
- “Divergent” by Veronica Roth
- “Reckless” by Lauren Roberts





Winter Book Sale

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

Hours:

February 3: 5-8 pm
(Friends only preview).

Memberships are available at the door.

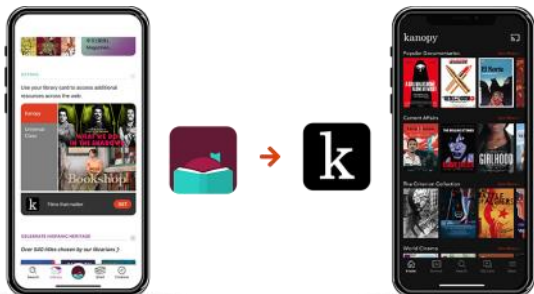
February 4-7: open during library hours

Sponsored by The Friends of the Library

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 often 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.



Tech Help Sessions



Timeless Tech

Bluffton: Jan. 13, Feb. 10, Mar. 10, Apr. 14, & May 12
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: Tuesday, March 10 and

Tuesday, March 17 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.*

To-Go Kits for Adults

These kits are designed with materials and supplies for a 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.

- Jan. 1 Mug Decal Decorating + Hot Cocoa Recipes
- Feb. 1 Presidential Favorite Recipes
- Mar. 1 No-Sew Sock Bunny
- Apr. 1 Printed Seed Packet Refrigerator Magnet



Events for Adults

Special & Monthly Events

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

Bingo with Jason

Bluffton: Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 2, Apr. 6, and May 4
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.*

Trivia Nights @ The Parlor City Brewing Company

Sundays, Jan. 11, Mar. 8, and May 10: 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.*

Chess Club

Bluffton: Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 9, Apr. 13, and May 11
Meets the second Monday of the month from 5:30-7:30 pm
Adults and Teens. Whether you are a chess master or just beginning, this club is for all skill levels and just for fun. Learn more about the game and challenge different opponents each month. *Registration appreciated, but not required.*



Junk Journal/Altered Book DIY Club

Bluffton: Wednesdays, January 14 and 28 and
February 11 and 25: 5:30-7:00 pm
Adults and Teens. Join us for multiple sessions where you can work on different techniques each time for either



transforming a blank journal into a junk journal or taking an existing book and altering it. You can join one or all four of the sessions since you will work on different parts of the book at different times. We will have

journals and books to get you started or bring one of your own. *Registration appreciated, but not required.*

Theater Thursday

Bluffton: Third Thursday of each month at 10 am

- Jan. 15 "The Amateur" (PG-13)
- Feb. 19 "F1" (PG-13)
- Mar. 19 "Superman" (PG-13)
- Apr. 16 "Karate Kid: Legends" (PG-13)
- May 21 "Snow White" (PG)

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



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.*

- Jan. 26 Alcohol Ink Art
- Feb. 23 Bedazzled Book Cover Art
- Mar. 30 Decorative Coasters
- Apr. 27 Faux Stained Glass Bookmarks
- May 18 Pressed Flower Wood Ornaments

Golden Gamers

Bluffton: Jan. 27, Feb. 24, Mar. 24, Apr. 28, and May 26
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.*



Free Tax Help

Bluffton: Select Mondays from Feb. 2-Apr. 13
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.*

Cook, Talk, Taste

Bluffton: Mar. 10, Apr. 14, and May 12

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.*

Fort Wayne Philharmonic Performance

Bluffton: Thursday, March 12: 7 pm

All ages. The Fort Wayne Philharmonic will be at the library for this free Stories in Music Community Ensemble show! Listen as one of the ensemble groups brings a story to life. Perfect for the entire family. *Registration appreciated.*



Euchre for Fun

Bluffton: Thursday, March 26: 6:00-7:30 pm

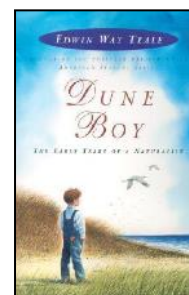
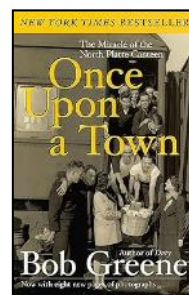
Adults. Join us for an evening of euchre during Spring Break Week. No tournament, it's all just for fun and all skill levels! Bring a partner or get matched with one there. Refreshments will be served. *Registration appreciated.*

Book Discussions

Brown Bag Book Club

Bluffton: Second Monday of each month at 1:30 pm

- Jan. 12 Reader's Choice
- Feb. 9 "See Also Proof: A Marjorie Trumaine Mystery" by Larry D. Sweazy
- Mar. 9 "Once Upon a Town" by Bob Greene
- Apr. 13 Read a book from the Non-fiction ENTERTAINMENT section
- May 11 "Dune Boy" by Edwin Way Teale



Ossian Branch Events

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. 21, Feb. 18, Mar. 18, Apr. 15, & May 20

Meets the third Wednesday of the month from 6-8 pm
Adults (18+). Join us for a night of tabletop games at the Ossian Branch. *Registration appreciated.*

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.

Main Library Events

Passive Programming

Check out the Children's Room for weekly pop-in activities.

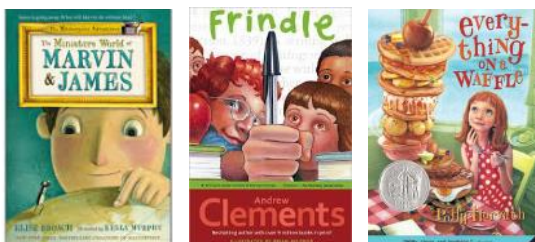
Children's Book Clubs

Grades 1-2 - Bluffton: Jan. 6, Feb. 3, Mar. 3, and Apr. 7
Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm

Grades 3-4 - Bluffton: Jan. 13, Feb. 10, Mar. 10, and Apr. 14
Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm

Grades 5-6 - Bluffton: Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar. 12, and Apr. 9
Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm

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



Preschool Music and Movement

Bluffton: Thursday, January 15: 10 am-noon

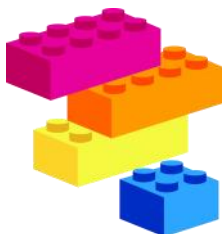


Pre-school ages. Drop in and participate in activities involving rhythm, movement, music, and sound! *No registration needed.*

LEGO at the Library

Bluffton: Tuesday, January 20: 5:30-7:30 pm

Grades K-6. School-age kids can join us at the Main library for fun LEGO building challenges. Work together with friends and family, or compete against each other.
Drop-in event; no registration needed.



Family Fort Night

Bluffton: Friday, February 6: 5:30-7:00 pm

All ages. Join us after the library is closed to build a blanket fort and read together as a family! Fort building materials will be available, but families are welcome to bring their own blankets, sheets, or pillows. *Registration required.*



Hygge Night

Bluffton: Friday, February 13: 4:30-6:00 pm

All ages. Drop in to enjoy the cozy fireplace in the Parlor, warm drinks, snacks, and being read to while coloring, painting, or doing needlecrafts. Blankets from home to cozy up with are welcome! *Registration is not required, but feel free to sign up with an email or phone number for a reminder.*

Fort Wayne Philharmonic Performance

Bluffton: Thursday, March 12: 7 pm

All ages. The Fort Wayne Philharmonic will be at the library for this free Stories in Music Community Ensemble show! Listen as one of the ensemble groups brings a story to life. Perfect for the entire family. *Registration appreciated.*

Hands on with STEAM

Bluffton: Thursday, March 26: 10 am-5 pm

All ages. Explore the world of STEAM at the library! Science, technology, art, and more at your fingertips!
Drop-in event; no registration needed.

Heading to Hogwarts

Bluffton: Thursday, April 16: 6-7 pm

Grades K-6. Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry has come to Wells County Public Library! To become a true witch or wizard, you will need to locate all the items needed before the beginning of the school year! Come join the scavenger hunt to become a Junior Witch or Wizard in training! *Registration required.*



Saturday at the Movies

Bluffton: Third Saturday of each month at 11 am

All ages. Enjoy a family-friendly movie. Drop-in event.

- Jan. 17 "Gabby's Dollhouse, the Movie" (G)
- Feb. 21 "Dog Man" (PG)
- Mar. 21 "A Minecraft Movie" (PG)
- Apr. 18 "IF" (PG)
- May 16 "Lilo & Stitch" (PG)



Ossian Branch Events

LEGO Drop-In

Ossian: Jan. 27, Feb. 24, Mar. 31, and Apr. 28

Meets the last Tuesday of the month from 4-7 pm

Grades K-6. Create LEGO masterpieces, using blocks provided by the library. No registration needed.

Valentines Crafty Kids

Ossian: Monday, February 9: 4-6 pm

Grades K-6. Drop in anytime between 4 and 6 pm to create stained glass heart sun catchers, thumbprint heart magnets, and a paper heart craft. No registration needed.

Pirates in the Library! Shiver Me Timbers!

Ossian: Monday, March 9: 6:30-7:30 pm

Grades 1-5. Have fun portraying a pirate, and learn more about their adventuresome lives. Enjoy a story, craft, and snack. Registration appreciated, but not required.



April Showers Crafty Kids

Ossian: Monday, April 13: 4-6 pm

Grades K-6. Drop in anytime between 4 and 6 pm to create a spring umbrella craft, raindrop sun catchers, and a rainy day wax craft. No registration needed.



Ready for a Secret Mission?

Ossian: Monday, May 11: 4-5 pm

Grades 1-5. See if you can solve puzzles, crack codes, and discover clues as you become a secret spy. Enjoy a story, craft and snack. Registration appreciated, but not required.



Story Sessions

Join us each week for stories, fingerplays, and activities. Must be registered to attend all story sessions. Registration starts Jan. 19 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 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, join our **1,000 Books Before Kindergarten** program to help prepare your younger children for school and life-long learning.

Events for Teens

Clubs and Special Events

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

Teen Gaming Club

Bluffton: Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 2, and Apr. 6

Meets the first Monday of the month from 6-7 pm

Grades 6-12. Bring your own device or play the library's provided consoles and find other players for your favorite multiplayer games! Gaming Club is also open to trading card games and board games.

Registration is not required.



Teen Crafting Club

Bluffton: Jan. 19, Feb. 23, Mar. 16, and Apr. 20

Meets the 3rd Monday of the month from 3:30-4:30 pm

Grades 6-12. If you need a break after school, check out the Teen Crafting Club to create something new! Feel free to either work on the craft provided that month (while supplies last) or bring your own projects or art from home to show off. Registration is not required.



Teen Anime Club

Bluffton: Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Mar. 26, and Apr. 30



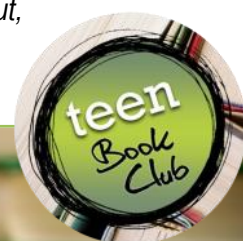
Meets the last Thursday of the month from 6-7 pm

Grades 6-12. Whether you're just getting into anime or you're an otaku already, this club is for you. Each month will feature a different anime and snacks will be provided. Some meetings will even have special themes and activities.

Registration is not required.

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 or a mini Blizzard from Dairy Queen. You'll also get a chance to win a prize basket. Participate in a Cozy 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 Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which mails free books to children from birth until they begin school. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Pizza Hut, and Dairy Queen.



Teen Book Club

Bluffton: Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar. 12, and Apr. 9 from 6:30-7:30 pm

Grades 6-12. Discuss the selected book for the month and enjoy snacks and activities. Registration required.

- Jan. 8: "Peak" by Roland Smith
- Feb. 12: "The House of the Scorpion" by Nancy Farmer
- Mar. 12: "Night Gardener" by Jonathan Auxier
- Apr. 9: "Fuzzy Mud" by Louis Sachar





Teen D&D for Beginners

Bluffton: Tuesday, March 24 or Friday, March 27: 1-4 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 running missions from *Defiance in Phlan*, as many as time allows. Please note that this is an introductory adventure for 1st-level characters. Pre-made characters will be provided, along with dice. *Registration required to guarantee your spot. Please pick only one session (24th or 27th). Both days will run the same content.*



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. 8 Jazzin' up Nachos
- Feb. 5 Creative Chocolate Dipping
- Mar. 5 Jazzin' up S'mores
- Apr. 2 Jazzin' up English Muffins

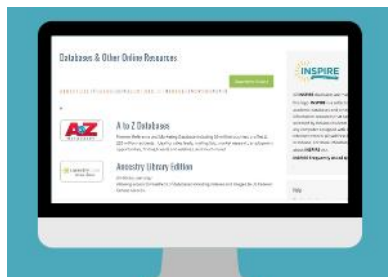


Programming made possible by the Wells County Foundation

Student and Teacher Resources

INSPIRE/Databases

A collection of academic databases and other resources are available to help you with school projects, including the INSPIRE databases available to anyone in Indiana that feature Academic Search Elite, Explora for Middle and High Schools, and School Skills Improvement for Middle and High Schools. Go to wellscolibrary.org and click on "Research" to access or go directly to inspire.in.gov/students



World Book Student

This online encyclopedia includes fantastic resources and more than 40,000 encyclopedia entries for students in 5th grade and up. World Book Advanced extends to grades 9 and up. Access both at: wellscolibrary.org/research.



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

Library Closings:
New Years:
Wednesday, Dec. 31 (close at 5 pm)
Thursday, Jan. 1
President’s Day:
Monday, February 16
Easter:
Friday, April 3 & Saturday, April 4
Memorial Day:
Saturday, May 23 & Monday, May 25



Connect With Us on...



Vol. 35 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) \$2
- INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY \$10
- PATRON \$25
- SPONSOR \$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: _____

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