

# THE SCOOP

The official newsletter of  
the Whiting Public Library

## WHAT IS INSIDE

**CHILDREN AND TEENS**

---

**ADULT PROGRAMMING**

---

**INSIDE SCOOP**

---

**TECH CORNER**

---

**BESTSELLERS**

---

**STAFF PICKS / BOOK CLUB**

---

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

---

**LIBRARY INFORMATION**



## MAKE READING A PART OF YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Reading is a powerful tool that enriches lives at every stage. For children, it sparks imagination, builds vocabulary, and lays the foundation for academic success. For teens, it fosters critical thinking, empathy, and self-expression. Adults and seniors benefit too—reading reduces stress, improves memory, and provides a lifelong opportunity to explore new ideas and perspectives. No matter your age, reading is a gateway to personal growth and discovery.

Your public library is the perfect place to nurture this lifelong habit. From board books for little ones to engaging novels for teens, and from career resources to large-print books for seniors, we offer something for everyone. Libraries provide free access to diverse collections, expert guidance from librarians, and a welcoming space to connect with others. By visiting the library, you're not just finding your next great read—you're joining a community that values learning, creativity, and inclusivity.

Take the next step in your reading journey today. Stop by Whiting Public Library or explore our online resources to discover how the library can inspire and empower readers of all ages. Your next adventure is waiting—right here at the library!

**Welcome to 2025 at Whiting Public Library!**

A new year is here, and there's no better time to explore all the ways your library can help you learn, grow, and create. Whether you're tackling schoolwork, discovering a new hobby, or finding fun activities for the whole family, we're here to support you every step of the way.

**Free Tutoring with AskRose!**

Confused by chemistry? Anxious about algebra? AskRose tutors are here to help! This FREE tutoring service is designed to help you understand your homework, find solutions, and feel confident tackling similar problems on your own. Before calling, be sure to gather your homework, a pencil or pen, paper, your textbook (if you have one), and a calculator.

📞 Call 1-877-ASK-ROSE 🕒 Available Sun-Thurs, 4 PM-9 PM. For more information, stop by the Children's Department.

**Join the WPL Scribble Society!**

Do you love to sketch, doodle, or draw? Get creative with the WPL Scribble Society! Visit the Children's Department desk to pick up supplies and check out this month's sketch prompts. Don't forget to share your masterpieces with us by tagging @WhitingPublicLibrary on social media or stop in so we can take a picture! Let's see your creativity shine!

Make Whiting Public Library part of your new year's journey—we can't wait to see you!

*Ms. Adrienne*  
Youth Services Librarian

**Children's Programming**

**Creativity Club (Arts & Crafts):**

Every second Monday at 3:15pm



**Mind Bender Monday (Trivia & Puzzles):**

Every fourth Monday at 3:15pm



**Night Owls Storytime:**

Every first Tuesday of the month.

**Family Bingo:**

Every second Tuesday at 6pm.

**Family Board Game Night:**

Every fourth Tuesday at 6pm

**Preschool Storytime:**

Every Wednesday at 10am

**Lego Club:**

Every second Wednesday at 2:30pm

**Wheelie Wednesday (HotWheels):**

Every third Wednesday at 2:30pm



**Barbie Club:**

Every fourth Wednesday at 2:30pm

**Gutsy Gourmet (Try different foods & flavors):**

Every fourth Thursday at 3:15pm



**Itty Bitty Storytime:**

Second and fourth Fridays at 10am

**Little Explorers Sensory Play (Added Day!):**

Every first & third Friday at 10am

**Upcoming Special Events**

**Life-Size Games Day! - 1/4 11am-4pm**

Giant Hungry Hippo, Sorry, Yahtzee, & More! All ages.

**Take Your Child to the Library Day - 2/1 2pm**

A national day to celebrate library MAGIC! Stop in for a magic show at 2pm!

**Carnival Day at the Library - 3/1 11am-4pm**

Enjoy carnival games throughout the Children's Department

**Teen Corner**



**TEEN VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:**

**NOAH PEREZ, 15**

**School:** Whiting High School

**Grade:** 10

**Future Career:** Nail Tech

**Hobbies:** Drawing, listening to music, crocheting

**Favorite program or thing at the library:** Teen Anime, Pride Club, & Game Night

**T.A.B.**

The Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.) is a group of teens in grades 7-12 who meet the first Wednesday of the month to play games, chat, review books, plan teen events, and volunteer at the library. Free membership is required and entitles you to volunteering opportunities and exclusive events at the library, including after-hours events, participating in library social media, and putting your own programs together. Register online (scan the code below for more info!)

**Teen Programming**

**Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Meetings:**

Every first Wednesday at 2:30pm. Must be registered.

**Tween/Teen Makers:**

1/9 3:15pm - DIY Patches

2/13 3:15pm - DIY Phone Holder

3/13 3:15pm - Macrame Rainbow

**Teen Anime:**

1/24 3:15pm - Anime/Manga Trivia

2/21 3:15pm - Drawing Manga

3/21 3:15pm - Paper Crafting

**Pride, No Prejudice:**

Meets 4th Tuesdays from 6pm-7:30pm. Informal social club for LGBTQ+ teens and allies.



# ADULT PROGRAMMING

**Every Monday  
At 2:00pm  
Cards & Conversations**

Stop By the library every week to play some cards



**Every Tuesday At 11am  
We Got The Beat**

A Fun Exercise Program To Help You Stay Fit!



**Every 3rd Tuesday 6pm  
Adult Crafting Night**

A Fun Night of Crafting and Painting for Adults!



**Bookworm Book Club**

Jan 22 - Nimona  
Feb 26 - Book Lover



## JANUARY

**January 18 at 11 am  
Travels With Tony**

Journey on a cinematic tour through the seasons in Michiana. The trip begins in the Spring with a stop to the South Bend History Museum. In the Summer you will visit some historic homes in Elkhart.



**January 11 at 2 pm  
Significant Building in Northwest Indiana**



This program, hosted by Indiana Landmarks, and organization committed to preserving and revitalizing the state's historic structures. Will talk about historic buildings throughout NWI

**January 25th at 2 pm  
Four Stars, Two Stripes, and one vision**



Clearance Goodman will lead an in-depth historical analysis of Chicago's Iconic Flag, exploring its significance alongside key milestones, events, and influential figures from the City's rich history.

**Jan 28 at 6pm  
TRIVIA NIGHT**

*With Tony*  
Come test your trivia knowledge and see if your team comes out on top!!!

A prize will be awarded to the winning team



### REAL REELS

Thursdays At 2:00 pm  
Come Watch An Interesting Documentary Every Week  
January Documentaries

Jan 2 - Charade  
Jan 9 - Sorry Wrong Number  
Jan 16 - The Graduate  
Jan 23 - The Big Short  
Jan 30 - The Third Man

## FEBRUARY

**February 15th at 2 pm  
The Life of Andrew Carnegie**



(Historian Jim Gibbons returns to the Whiting Public Library. Andrew Carnegie made a name for himself in the United States steel industry and in history with a true "Rags to Riches" story. This self-made man was also a lover of the public library. Carnegie even donated \$5000 in order for the Whiting Public Library to be constructed.)

**February 22th at 2 pm  
FAMILY Chocolate BINGO**



Attention all Bingo lovers! WPL will be hosting a Chocolate Bingo. Each BINGO winner will win a candy bar. This program is for all ages. Children must be with an adult.

**Feb 25th at 6pm  
TRIVIA NIGHT**



*With Tony*  
Come test your trivia knowledge and see if your team comes out on top!!!

A prize will be awarded to the winning team



### REAL REELS

Thursdays At 2:00 pm  
Come Watch An Interesting Documentary Every Week  
February Documentary

February 13 - Sunset Boulevard  
February 20 - Travels with My Aunt  
February 27 - Glengarry Glen Ross

## MARCH

**Mar 4th at 6pm  
TRIVIA NIGHT**



*With Tony*  
Come test your trivia knowledge and see if your team comes out on top!!! A prize will be awarded to the winning team

**March 1st at 2 pm**

**The Life of a WWII Fighter Pilot**



Historian Ray Boomhower will share the story of Alex Vraciu who was a Navy fighter pilot, who was awarded the Navy Cross and Metal of Honor.

**March 8th at 2 pm**

**The Six Wives of Henry VIII**



Queen, lover, mother outcast, victim, survivor: Meet the six wives of Henry VIII as presented by Martina Mathisen.

**March 15th at 2 pm**

**Advance Gardening 101**



Fine tune your green thumb with Susan Radovich as she invites participants to delve into the fundamentals of gardening.

**March 22nd at 2 pm**

**Lose Lips Sink Ships**



Bruce Allardice will discuss military intelligence during the Civil War.

**March 29th at 2 pm**

**Bunco at the Library**



Weather you're a seasoned player or new to the game, this is an entertaining way to spend an afternoon and win prizes!



### REAL REELS

Thursdays At 2:00 pm  
Come Watch An Interesting Documentary Every Week  
March Documentaries

March 6 - Ball of Fire  
March 13 - Mrs. Brown  
March 20 - Dial M for Murder  
March 27 - Sudden Fear



DONATE BLOOD, DONATE LIFE

# BLOOD DRIVE

WHITING PUBLIC LIBRARY

FEBRUARY 8TH FROM 9:30 AM - 2 PM



American Red Cross



## Be Heart Smart PROGRAM

**Tuesdays 2025**  
**February 18, 25, March 4, 11**  
**1:00 – 3:00 PM**

Be Heart Smart is a multi-session, lecture-based program for individuals who want to learn more about preventing heart disease by making heart-healthy lifestyle changes. This program will teach participants how to monitor risk factors for heart disease and how to make simple changes to their daily routine that can improve their heart health. Participants are asked to attend all four lessons that will be taught each week by Linda Curley, Purdue University Extension Educator, Health and Human Sciences.

**This program is funded in partnership with Lake County Health Department.**

**Register Now!**

Whiting Public Library

call 219-659-0269



## VITA Program

Volunteer Income Tax Assistant

### Earn It! Keep It! Save It!

### The VITA Program

**IRS trained and certified volunteers give free tax assistance to payers whose household income is less than \$67,000. We prepare & file your federal and state income tax returns at no cost to you.**

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program:

1. Ensures that you receive all tax benefits for which you are eligible, including the Earned Income Tax and other credits.
2. Eliminates the fees charged by commercial preparers & rapid refund loans
3. Provides access to resources that can put your money to work for you!

### Why Choose VITA

#### Free Tax Preparation Services



By utilizing VITA's services, you can be confident that your taxes are prepared accurately and in compliance with IRS regulations at no cost to you.

#### IRS Trained Volunteers



IRS-trained volunteers provide high-quality tax preparation. These volunteers undergo comprehensive training to ensure that they are well-equipped to assist tax filers with their returns.

### Prefer to File On Your Own?

If you are comfortable filing your own tax return, visit the My Free Taxes website to e-file your Federal and State Income Tax Return online for free. Visit [www.myfreetaxes.com](http://www.myfreetaxes.com) (income restrictions apply.)



### 2025 TAX PREP LOCATIONS

#### WHITING PUBLIC LIBRARY

1735 OLIVER STREET, WHITING IN

#### EAST CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

2401 E. COLUMBUS DR. EAST CHICAGO, IN

\*DROP OFF SITE

#### GARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

220 WEST 5TH AVE GARY, IN

\*DROP OFF SITE

#### HAMMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

564 STATE ST, HAMMOND, IN

\*DROP OFF SITE

#### HAMMOND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

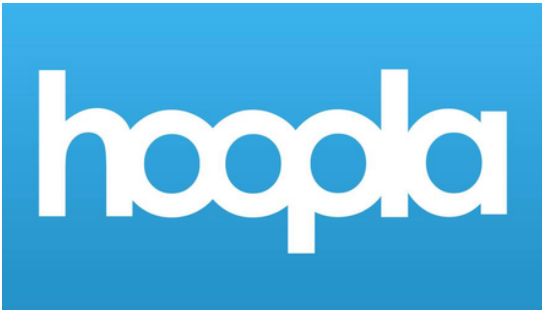
5233 HOHMAN AVE. HAMMOND, IN

Free tax preparation by appointment only contact 800-826-7871 or schedule online at [app.capappointments.com](http://app.capappointments.com)



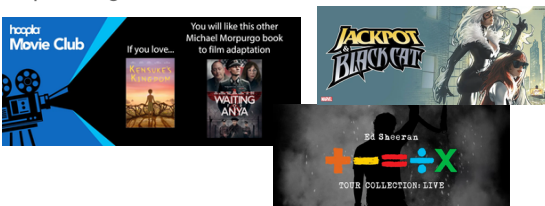
[Schedule Your Free Appointment](#)

[app.capappointments.com](http://app.capappointments.com)  
 or call (800)826-7871

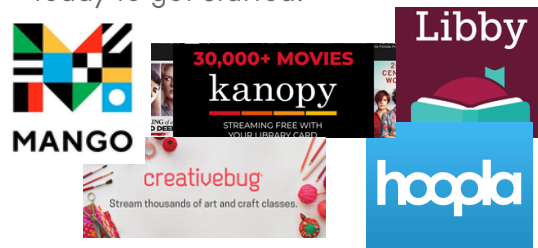


**GETTING TO KNOW  
HOOPLA!**

With your Whiting Public Library card, you can unlock the amazing world of Hoopla! This versatile electronic database gives you access to a massive library of audiobooks, comics, eBooks, movies, music, and television shows—all available to stream or download for free. But that’s not all! Hoopla also offers Binge Passes, which provide you with 7 days of unlimited access to premium content. With over 49 Binge Passes available, there’s truly something for everyone. Explore Puzzle Palace for brain-teasing fun, get inspired with Crafty and workout videos, dive into documentaries with Curiosity Stream, or enjoy international films with Asian Crush and BBC content. Hoopla makes it easy to enjoy endless entertainment and learning at your fingertips. Sign in today and start exploring!



Your Whiting Public Library card is your all-access pass to a treasure trove of electronic resources. Dive into eBooks, eAudiobooks, comic books, and manga through OverDrive and Hoopla, or stream shows and movies for the whole family with Kanopy and Hoopla. Enjoy free music streaming with Freegal, stay up-to-date with your favorite magazines on Flipster, and explore worksheets for teachers and parents with The Mailbox and Teachables. Learn over 170 languages—including ASL—using Mango Languages, research your family history with Ancestry, and expand your knowledge with the WorldBook Online Encyclopedia. Plus, unleash your creativity with Creativebug and Craft and Hobby, which offer hundreds of videos on cake decorating, crocheting, painting, and more. With your library card, the possibilities are endless! Visit today to get started.



*“The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library.”*  
**Albert Einstein**






Hardcover Fiction >

- |  |   |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <p>1</p>  <p>26 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>JAMES</b><br/>by Percival Everett</p> <p>A reimagining of "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" shines a different light on Mark Twain's classic, revealing new facets of the character of Jim.</p> | <p>2</p>  <p>47 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>THE WOMEN</b><br/>by Kristin Hannah</p> <p>In 1965, a nursing student follows her brother to serve during the Vietnam War and returns to a divided America.</p> | <p>3</p>  <p>60 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>IRON FLAME</b><br/>by Rebecca Yarros</p> <p>The second book in the Empyrean series. Violet Sorrengail's next round of training under the new vice commandant might require her to betray the man she loves.</p> | <p>4</p>  <p>24 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>THE GOD OF THE WOODS</b><br/>by Liz Moore</p> <p>When a 13-year-old girl disappears from an Adirondack summer camp in 1975, secrets kept by the Van Laar family emerge.</p> | <p>5</p>  <p>4 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>WIND AND TRUTH</b><br/>by Brandon Sanderson</p> <p>The fifth book in the Stormlight Archive series. The fate of the Cosmere is imperiled as the fighting and chaos reach an apex.</p> |
|--|---|---|---|--|






Hardcover Nonfiction >

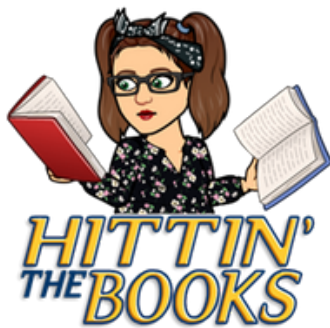
- |  |  |   |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| <p>1</p>  <p>6 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>CHER: THE MEMOIR, PART ONE</b><br/>by Cher</p> <p>In the first part of her memoir, the multiple award-winning pop culture icon traces her childhood and forays into the world of entertainment.</p> | <p>2</p>  <p>11 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>FRAMED</b><br/>by John Grisham and Jim McCloskey</p> <p>Our criminal justice system viewed through the struggles of 10 wrongfully convicted people to achieve exoneration.</p> | <p>3</p>  <p>13 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>BE READY WHEN THE LUCK HAPPENS</b><br/>by Ina Garten</p> <p>A memoir by the cookbook author and Food Network host known as the Barefoot Contessa.</p> | <p>4</p>  <p>6 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>THE SERVICEBERRY</b><br/>by Robin Wall Kimmerer</p> <p>The author of "Braiding Sweetgrass" illuminates how the gift economy in the natural world works and draws lessons for our economy; with illustrations by John Burgoyne.</p> | <p>5</p>  <p>12 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>MELANIA</b><br/>by Melania Trump</p> <p>The former and future first lady describes her work as a fashion model, marriage to Donald Trump and time in the White House.</p> |
|--|--|---|---|---|

Young Adult Hardcover >

- |  |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| <p>1</p>  <p>NEW THIS WEEK<br/><b>HEAVENLY TYRANT</b><br/>by Xiran Jay Zhao</p> <p>Zetian is finally the ruler of Huaxia, but can she handle it? (Ages 14 and up)</p> | <p>2</p>  <p>8 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>IF HE HAD BEEN WITH ME</b><br/>by Laura Nowlin</p> <p>The coming-of-age love story of Autumn and Phineas. (Ages 14 to 18)</p> | <p>3</p>  <p>17 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>A STUDY IN DROWNING</b><br/>by Ava Reid</p> <p>Dark forces try to thwart Preston and Effy's efforts to unravel the mysteries of author Emrys Myrddin's Hiraeth Manor. (Ages 14 and up)</p> | <p>4</p>  <p>13 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>NOTHING LIKE THE MOVIES</b><br/>by Lynn Painter</p> <p>In this sequel to "Better Than the Movies," Wes tries to win back the heart of Liz. (Ages 14 and up)</p> | <p>5</p>  <p>56 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>MURTAGH</b><br/>by Christopher Paolini</p> <p>Murtagh and his dragon, Thorn, must find and outwit a mysterious witch. (Ages 12 to 15)</p> |
|--|--|--|---|---|

Children's Picture Books >

- |   |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>1</p>  <p>10 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>TAYLOR SWIFT</b><br/>by Wendy Loggia. Illustrated by Elisa Chavarri</p> <p>A biography of the pop star. (Ages 4 to 8)</p> | <p>2</p>  <p>26 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>DON'T LET THE PIGEON DRIVE THE SLEIGH!</b><br/>by Mo Willems</p> <p>The pigeon has his sights set on driving Santa's sleigh. (Ages 3 to 5)</p> | <p>3</p>  <p>11 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>CHRISTMAS AT HOGWARTS</b><br/>by J.K. Rowling. Illustrated by Ziyi Gao</p> <p>Harry Potter celebrates his first Christmas at Hogwarts. (Ages 6 and up)</p> | <p>4</p>  <p>13 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>MS. RACHEL AND THE SPECIAL SURPRISE</b><br/>by Ms. Rachel. Illustrated by Monique Dong</p> <p>Children help Ms. Rachel look for a surprise. (Ages 0 to 3)</p> | <p>5</p>  <p>2 WEEKS ON THE LIST<br/><b>BLUEY: BARTLEBEE'S FIRST CHRISTMAS</b><br/>by Joe Brumm and Emily Baulch</p> <p>Bartlebee joins the Heeler family on their annual Christmas swim. (Ages 3 to 7)</p> |
|---|--|--|--|--|



**BOOK REVIEWER: ANGELA**  
**TITLE: STILL BEATING**  
**AUTHOR: JENNIFER HARTMANN**

Still Beating by Jennifer Hartmann is a gripping, heart-pounding tale that effortlessly blends suspense, humor, and a slow-burn romance. From the very first page, readers are pulled into Cora and Dean's intense dynamic, where years of teasing and rivalry explode into a life-or-death situation. Trapped together in a madman's basement, they must rely on each other in ways neither of them could ever have predicted.

Jennifer masterfully crafts a story full of tension, unexpected twists, and emotional depth. The evolution of Cora and Dean's relationship is captivating as the lines between hate and love blur, making every moment of their journey feel earned and genuine. The chemistry between the two characters is electric, and their growth as individuals and as a pair is profoundly moving.

Still Beating is a thrilling, dark, yet ultimately hopeful story that keeps you on the edge of your seat. Again, Jennifer Hartmann proves she is a master at blending romance and suspense into an unforgettable narrative.



**BOOK REVIEWER: ASHLEY**  
**TITLE: ASSISTANT TO THE VILLAIN**  
**AUTHOR: HANNAH NICOLE MAEHRER**

I recently finished *The Inheritance Games* by Jennifer Lynn Barnes, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. From the very beginning, you're immersed in a world filled with family secrets, puzzles, mazes, and hidden clues. As the reader, I found myself unraveling the mystery alongside the main character, Avery Grambs, which kept me hooked and eager to uncover more. The Hawthorne brothers, while sharing a similar background as wealthy heirs, each had distinct personalities, creating engaging banter and dynamic interactions. And for those who love a good series like I do, there's good news—this book is just the start, as not all the mysteries are solved in this first installment.



## BOOK CLUB NEWS

Are you an avid reader looking to connect with others who share your love of books? The Bookworm Book Club for adults meets monthly to discuss thought-provoking titles across a variety of genres. It's a welcoming space to share ideas, discover new favorites, and enjoy engaging conversations with fellow book lovers. Whether you're a lifelong reader or just getting back into books, the Bookworm Book Club is the perfect opportunity to dive into great reads and great company. Check with the library for this month's book selection and meeting date—we'd love to see you there!

## COMING UP:

JANUARY 22ND - **NIMONA** BY NOELLE STEVENSON  
FEBRUARY 26TH - **BOOK LOVER** BY EMILY HENRY

## HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE WHITING PUBLIC LIBRARY

### **Become a Friend of the Whiting Public Library!**

The Friends of the Whiting Public Library play a vital role in supporting our mission to serve the community. Through fundraising, volunteer work, and advocacy, the Friends help provide resources for special programs, events, and enhancements that go beyond our regular budget. From hosting exciting events to funding new books and technology, their efforts make a direct impact on the services we can offer. But they can't do it alone—your support is essential! By becoming a Friend of the Library, you'll join a group of dedicated individuals working to ensure the library remains a vibrant and valuable resource for everyone. Together, we can continue to inspire learning, creativity, and connection in Whiting. Join today and make a difference!

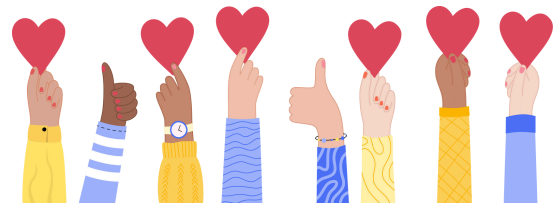
**Friends of the Whiting Public library membership drive**

**Support the Whiting Public Library by becoming a FRIEND!!!**

**The Friends of the Whiting Public Library will hold there Friends Annual Membership Drive in January 2025.**

**Mark your calendar to renew your membership or become a friend.**

**For more information contact the Friends at:  
[friends@whiting.lib.in.us](mailto:friends@whiting.lib.in.us)**



# Friends of the Library





1735 Oliver Street  
Whiting, IN 46394

### Library Hours

Monday 9 - 5 pm  
Tuesday 9 - 8 pm  
Wednesday 9 - 5 pm  
Thursday 9 - 5  
Friday 9 - 5 pm  
Saturday 9 - 5 pm

### Online

Website : [whiting.lib.in.us](http://whiting.lib.in.us)

### Phone

(219) 659-0269

### Email

[staffwpl@whiting.lib.in.us](mailto:staffwpl@whiting.lib.in.us)  
[wpl@whiting.lib.in.us](mailto:wpl@whiting.lib.in.us)

### Social Media

