# Message From The Director

Christmas, that magical time of year when, other than the occasional black Friday madness, people seem to be generally nicer to each other. The holiday spirit, joy and thanksgiving, glad tidings to all, and all that jazz. COVID has turned our world a little upside down, with masks, social distancing, and quarantining. I wonder how that will impact our holiday season? Will people be generally more friendly and understanding, or will the woe's of the pandemic drag us down?

I don't mean to diminish the impact of the pandemic on our lives, but I think I spoke last month about being thankful. Additionally, our staff development training had a focus on gratitude, and currently Facebook is awash with the hashtag #givethanks. I think if we search for the things that make us happy, we will generally be happier. I hope that as we pass through this holiday season, we are able to find those silver linings that make life beautiful.

One silver lining that I would like to share with everyone is that Santa Claus is coming to town. He may not be able to visit every library, and he may not be able to give any hugs this year, but Santa is coming! Watch out! Don't Pout! Good times are on the horizon. We may not be able to have big programs right now, but we are still putting take home packets together, doing some form of programming, and overall, just having fun.

In addition to programming, we are still offering online resources, books, movies, CDs, and so much for our patrons to check out. As an aside, I've talked to my first grader, and she is overwhelmed with excitement to get a library card for Christmas. How fun is that?! Maybe someone in your life could benefit from a library card. Share the joy!



We continue to clean, we encourage masks, social distancing is the standard, and we welcome you to the library. Merry Christmas to all!

Joel E. Tucker, Director Washington County Library System

### Holiday Movies @ Your Library

It's that time of the year again~ the holiday season is upon us, and with it comes merriment, joy, gift-giving, family, and friends. As you gather with family and friends, or if you are experiencing the solitude of COVID social distancing, enjoy some of our favorite holiday movies that are available @ your library:

It's a Wonderful Life (1946) ~ Director Frank Capra's classic tale of George Bailey, a desperate man who is visited by an angel who shows him how important one life can be.

A Christmas Carol ~ Charles Dicken's tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, who thinks Christmas is humbug until he is visited by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future. Available in many animated and live action versions.

White Christmas (1954) ~ Featuring Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye, this popular musical tells of two performers who put on a Christmas fundraiser to help their former army general. Music by Irving Berlin.

A Christmas Story (1983) ~ This movie follows the exploits of Ralphie Parker, who dreams of getting a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas. Based on the writings of Jean Shepherd.

*Elf (2003)* ~ Will Ferrell plays the part of Buddy, a toddler who was accidently brought to the North Pole and raised among Santa's elves, who finds his real father in New York City and infuses those he meets with the spirit of Christmas.

*The Polar Express (2004)* ~ Based on the beloved children's book by Chris Van Allsburg, this is the story of a doubting young boy who takes an extraordinary trip to the North Pole and learns that the wonder of life never fades for those who believe.

How the Grinch Stole Christmas ~ The classic story by Dr. Seuss is available in the original animated version (1966), as well as the live action movie (2000), and new animated version "The Grinch" (2018). Find out how the mean, green Grinch finds the spirit of Christmas.

#### **Library Board Members:**

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Some things take a long time. For instance, the North American and Eurasian continents move apart at about 2.5 centimeters per year—about the same speed your fingernails grow—so it'll take more than a decade to gain even one foot of distance from your ex who lives in Italy. Or take our favorite dwarf planet: Pluto takes 248 Earth years to go just once around the sun. And the sun itself is taking its sweet time going around the center of the Milky Way Galaxy; it'll complete one trip in about 230 million years. And yet, somehow (in defiance of everything we previously understood about spacetime), the year 2020 has been longer than ALL OF THESE. If you too are counting the excruciatingly slow minutes until we're finally able to consign this year to the history books, may the library gently suggest that watching a DVD while you wait may help pass the time (ever so slightly) faster? Perhaps you could start with some of these recently added DVDs:

### **MOVIES AND TV:**

- BEAUTIFUL BOY (Steve Carell version)
- BILL & TED FACE THE MUSIC
- THE CROWN, SEASON 3
- IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS
- SENSE, SENSIBILITY
   & SNOWMEN
- STARTREK PICARD. SEASON 1

### **DOCUMENTARIES:**

- THE AMERICAN WEST. SEASON 1
- THE HOTTEST AUGUST
- SLAY THE DRAGON: END GERRYMANDERING OR DEMOCRACY...
- TOKYO IDOLS
- TRUMP CARD
- THE TRUTH ABOUT FAT
- WALKING ON WATER

Despite 2020 having been longer than the age of the entire universe, some things haven't changed: DVDs are still FREE to check out with your Washington County Library Card. So feel free to use up some of these last hours of 2020 with a trip to the library! It'll bring a better (and seriously—it's just GOT to be better) 2021 that much closer.

-Beth Meyers,

St. George Library

# Classic Holiday Stories for Kids

Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, or other traditions, get in the spirit of the season with these tales that evoke nostalgia and fun:

- · How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Suess
- ·The Night Before Christmas by Clement C. Moore
- · Is it Hanukkah Yet? by Chris Barash
- · Home for the Holidays by Debbie Mumm
- · Li'l Rabbit's Kwanza by Donna Washington
- · A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
- · D is for Dreidel by Tanya Stone

These are just a few of the many titles available @ your library. Stop in today and check out some holiday titles to share with your children.

# **Employee Spotlight**

I would like to recognize Sara Whitehead as the Employee Spotlight for November.

Sara is a clerk at the St. George branch. As a student at Dixie State University, she interned for



the university library, and when that was done, asked to intern for the St. George branch. It didn't take long to recognize that she was a great clerk, and was selected for a part-time position.

As the St. George branch has struggled with limited personnel due to a hiring freeze, she has had ample opportunity to step up and shine. In addition to serving at the circ desk, some of her additional duties include being in charge of the lost and found, and the hold shelf verification/reading.

Sara was a big help during curbside pickup and aided in completing the inventory in St. George. She is a valued member of the circulation staff and provides quality customer service with a friendly smile and a pleasant demeanor. She helps lift spirits at the circ desk by writing a "quote" or "Joke-a-day" on the desk calendar and enjoys drawing animals from time to time.

She is in her last semester at DSU. She is a mini-expert on Jane Austin and is doing a project for school. Sara loves the library setting and has a goal to earn an MLS after her BS degree. Congratulate Sara next time you see her on being the November Spotlight!

- Joel Tucker,

Joel Tucker
 Director



The Washington County Library System is working together with local charities to help those in need during the holidays. The libraries will be collecting donations of warm winter scarves, hats, mittens, and small baby blankets, non-perishable food items, and other

necessities. Check with your branch to find out what charity they are supporting and what items are needed for that charity. Branches that do not have a giving tree set up will accept donations and send them to a branch to add to the donated items to be distributed.

Your generosity will support the Dove Center, Switch Point, Zion Rotary Club, Canyon Creek Services, and other local charities that assist those in need. The Library System would like to thank all of the patrons and community members who support these efforts!

# **Library Programs and Events**

Library programs will be held contingent upon current COVID mandates and may be canceled without notice. Virtual programs and reading programs are available online.

#### Hurricane Branch

Story Time Walks - available daily during library hours

#### Santa Clara Branch

Story Time Online: Posted every Tuesday, available daily Holiday Craft Along - December 14 Monday, December 21 -Curbside with the Grinch 3:00 - 5:00 pm

### St. George Branch

Story Time Walks - Beginning Dec. 7
Tuesday, Dec. 1 - Grab 'n Go Science Club for Kids 3:30 - 4:30 pm
Thursday & Friday, Dec. 3 & 4- Grab n' Go Adult Craft Project
Tuesday, Dec. 10 - Pageturners Book Club via Zoom 2:30 pm
Tuesday, Dec. 15 - Grab n' Go Art Club for Kids 3:30 - 4:30 pm
Thursday, Dec. 17 - 24 - Grab n' Go Teen Activity packets
Monday, Dec. 21 - Polar Express Grab n' Go for Kids

### **Enterprise Branch**

Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am
Wednesdays - Youth Activities 3:00 pm
Fridays - Movie Matinee @ the Library 1:00 pm

#### New Harmony Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time TBA
Thursday, Dec. 17- Virtual Craft Class 4:00 pm

#### Hildale Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 11:00 am Thursday, Dec. 10 - Teen Advisory Group 4:30 pm Tuesday, Dec. 16 - Writer's Group 6:00 pm Wednesday, Dec. 16 - Anime Club 5:00 pm

### Washington Branch

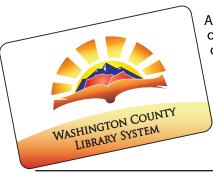
Story Walks available after 12/7
Wednesday, Dec. 2 - Nerd Herd via Zoom 4:00 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 9 - Teen Christmas Workshop Craft Kit - pickup
at the library and assemble them via Zoom 4:00 pm
Monday, Dec. 14- Library Techies via Zoom 2:00 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 16- Techno Teens - Videos on Zoom 4:00 pm
Thursday, Dec. 17- Book Ends Book Club via video 4:30 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 23 - Teen White Elephant Party via Zoom 4:00
Tuesday, Dec. 29 - Arts & Crafts Club via Zoom 2:00 pm
Wednesday, December 30 - Booklanders Teen Book Club
Via Zoom 4:00 pm

# A Library Card is the Perfect Gift

Finding the perfect holiday gift is not always an easy thing to do. People come in all shapes and sizes, and tastes vary from person to person. So what do you? One item that is sure to please and suits all tastes and ages, lasts for years and years, is easy to wrap, fits everybody, and is free to residents is - a library card!

You might not even know what a powerful little piece of plastic it is. This little card that fits in your wallet will keep you supplied with fabulous books, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks, and much, much more. By using the Library System's online catalog, you can request the items you want right from the comfort of your home 24/7. You will receive a notification when your items arrive, and they will be all ready and waiting for you without having to hunt on the shelves to find them! And many electronic titles are available for download without any waiting time on OverDrive.

And it isn't just books, music, and movies that are available. The library offers numerous programs including storytimes, book clubs, craft classes, and more, all for FREE!



A library card is a ticket to all sorts of homework help for students of all ages. Need a gift for a music or movie lover, a bookworm, crafter, or traveler? A library card can give you access to thousands of titles, all for free. A better Christmas gift is hard to find. Why not give one to yourself!

# New York Times Best Sellers -Hardcover Fiction and Nonfiction

#### FICTION:

- 1. The Law of Innocence by Michael Connelly
- 2. I Would Leave Me If I Could by Halsey
- 3. A Time For Mercy by John Grisham
- 4. The Return
- by Nicholas Sparks
- 5. The Sentinel
- by Lee Child and Andrew Child
- 6. Fortune And Glory by Janet Evanovich
- 7. Maurader
- by Clive Cussler &
- **Boyd Morrison**
- 8. Moonflower Murders by Anthony Horowitz
- 9. Anxious People
- bv Fredrik Backman
- 10. The Vanishing Half
- by Brit Bennett

#### **NONFICTION:**

- 1. Humans by Brandon Stanton
- 2. Greenlights
- by Matthew McConaughey
- 3. Uncomfortable Conversations
- With A Black Man by Emmanuel Acho
- 4. First Principles
- by Thomas E. Ricks
- 5. Caste
- by Isabel Wilkerson
- 6. Untamed
- by Glennon Doyle
- 7. The Answer Is . . .
- by Alex Trebek
- 8. Pappyland
- by Wright Thompson
- 9. The Best of Me
- by David Sedaris
- 10. Killing Crazy Horse
- by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard

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