**Message From The Director**

I’ve always heard that Switzerland is a neutral country. I’ve never fully understood what that means other than they don’t participate in wars; they don’t pick a side.

Much like Switzerland, I would like to take a moment to reinforce the neutrality of the library. It seems to me that there are little micro wars being fought within our society. A war of ideas where it seems like the perspective of the combatants is: if you don’t think the way I do, believe in the same ideas I have, and act a certain way that supports my ideals, then you are against me and everything I stand for.

Examples could include: Democrat vs Republican, the second amendment vs gun control, abortion vs pro-life, differences in religion, difference in sexual preferences, differences in nationality, differences, differences, differences… Why do we divide ourselves with our differences? If only there was a safe place where people can go where, despite their differences, there is something for everyone. Well, welcome to the library!

The Washington County Library System welcomes all patrons without discrimination. Our mission is to provide people with information and the space to promote ideas, inspire lifelong learning, and strengthen communities. We maintain a free, open, and welcoming environment where patrons can explore a wide range of topics. When acting as private citizens, our employees are free to engage in the same types of public discourse as anyone else.

While on the clock, we do not advocate specific positions. Doing so would contradict our goal of providing a place of public resources where all feel welcome. Our library serves as an environment that cultivates learning for all cultures, creeds, and backgrounds by being an educational haven for patrons to read freely about any topic they choose.

We welcome all to the library, and we hope you feel welcome and enjoy all we have to offer as we maintain a position of neutrality on the battlefield of controversial ideas.

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**Summer Reading Program Review**

One of the most successful library programs locally and nationally is the Collaborative Summer Reading Program (CSLP). CSLP is a grass roots consortium of states working together to provide high-quality summer reading program materials for children at the lowest cost possible for their public libraries.

Programs centered on this year’s theme, “Libraries Rock”, focused on music, geology, and all things rockin’. Why is Summer Reading important? Studies show that public library summer reading programs enhance student achievement. This year, the Washington County Library System had over 5,500 summer reading participants, with an increase in registration for the teen and adults.

Children, ‘tweens, teens, and adults throughout the County participated in a wide variety of programs. These special events ranged in scope from craft days and magic shows to exciting music presentations. Each of these events reinforced the mission of the Summer Reading Program, to help retain and improve reading skills with engaging and educational programming.

The programs infused the children with excitement, sparked their imaginations, and created a purposeful way to help families focus on the importance of literacy.

The Library System would like to thank the volunteers, presenters, and sponsors that participated in creating one of the most fun and exciting Summer Reading Programs to date!

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**Library Board Members:**

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<td>Kelly Atkin</td>
<td>435-680-4833</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lacie Hughes</td>
<td>201-881-1234</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerald Jones</td>
<td>435-878-2563</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan McGuire</td>
<td>435-772-3144</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michele Mitchell</td>
<td>435-652-2142</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Goulding</td>
<td>435-429-4058</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zach Renstrom (Commissioner)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ZacharyR@washco.utah.gov">ZacharyR@washco.utah.gov</a></td>
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I am pleased to shine the Employee spotlight for July on Sean Peabody. Sean started at the Hurricane Branch as a Hurricane High School intern in January 2017. Following high school graduation, Sean became a sub, and was hired as a part-time clerk in October 2017.

In addition to providing quality customer service as one of our tallest clerks (if not our tallest employee), Sean enjoys assisting patrons in the computer lab and with their devices, creating displays, evaluating the children's DVD collection, and so much more. Sean serves as the branch expert on history, especially the years 1650 – 1850 (when muskets were popular).

In his free time, Sean likes to play video games (like World of Warships), watch war movies (Hacksaw Ridge, Zulu, and Master and Commander), and work on a YouTube channel he is creating. He hopes to one day revisit Ireland, teach history, and possibly move to the east coast for its historical value (born at Fort Stewart in historic Savannah, Georgia)! Sean's inspiration in life is his late grandfather, Sergeant First Class Everett Peabody, who still influences everything he does. Please congratulate him when you get the chance.

-Joel Tucker, Director
Library Programs and Events

Hurricane Branch
Mondays - Thursdays - Story Time 11:00 am
Thursdayss - Magic the Gathering 3:00 pm
Fridays - Tots 'n Toys 11:00 am
Saturdays - Video Game Club 11:00 am
Wednesday, August 1 - 'Tween Crafting with Peggy Clyde 1:00 pm
Friday, August 3 - Readers Circle Book Club 3:00 pm
Friday, August 24 - Writer and Artist Club 4:00 pm
Friday, August 31 - Role Playing Game Fair 6:00 pm

Santa Clara Branch
Story Times will resume the week of August 23rd*
Tuesdays - Toddler Time 10:15 & 11:30 am
Wednesdays - Preschool Story Time 10:15 & 11:30 am
Thursdays - Pajama Party Story Time for All Ages - 6:00 pm (wear your pajamas!)
Saturdays - Tai Chi 10:30 am
Friday, August 3 - Drive In Movie- ages 11 and under 11:00 am
Saturday, August 4 - Movie - "Sherlock Gnomes" 4:00 pm
Thursday, August 9 - Chapter One Book Club 5:30 pm
Saturday, August 11 - Crafternoon Make & Take 12:00 - 6:00 pm
Monday, August 13 - Lego Free Play 4:00 pm
Tuesday, August 14 - Chapter One Book Club 5:30 pm
Monday, August 20 - L.I.F.E. Program 10:30 am
Monday, August 20 - TEDx Event 5:30 pm
Saturday, August 25 - Crafternoon Make & Take 12:00 - 6:00 pm
Saturday, August 25 - Teen Harry Potter Event 2:00 - 4:00 pm

St. George Branch
Saturdays - Movie Matinee 2:00 pm
Mondays - Story Time with Grandpa Steve 10:00 & 11:00
Mondays - Story Time with Miss Jill 1:00 pm
Wednesdays - Story Time with Mrs. Mann 10:00, 11:00, 2:00 & 5:00
Thursdays - Toddler Time 10:00, 11:00 & 1:00 pm
Fridays - Toddler Time 11:00 am
Monday, August 6 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm
Monday, August 6 - Live from New York - Music by Marc Berger 6:30 pm
Thursday, August 9 - Investment Banking Seminar 6:00 pm
Tuesday, August 14 - Adult Coloring Club 1:00 pm
Wednesday, August 22 - Learning Express Class 4:00 pm
Thursday, August 23 - Model Trains 6:00 pm
Tuesday, August 28 - Adult Coloring Club 1:00 pm

Springdale Branch
Fridays - Computer Classes 10:00 am
Fridays - Story Time 10:30 am
Wednesday, August 29 - Book Discussion Group 7:00 pm

Hildale Branch
Thursday, August 16 - Illiterati Book Club 5:00 pm
Friday, August 24 - Anime Club 5:00 pm

New Harmony Branch
Wednesdays - Beginning August 15th - Story Time 12:00 pm
Monday, August 13 - Kolob Korner Book Club 2:00 pm
Fridays - Beginning August 17th - Needlework Group 1:00 pm

Library Programs and Events

Washington Branch
Tuesdays - Toddler Time 10:00 & 11:00 am
Wednesday, August 1 - Nerd Herd Meeting 4:00 pm
Wednesday, August 8 - Teen Event - Coat of Arms 4:00 pm
Saturday, August 11 - Mother Daughter Book Club 3:00 pm
Tuesday, August 14 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm
Wednesday, August 15 - Teen Event - Renaissance Faire 4:00 pm
Thursday, August 16 - Book Ends Book Club 4:30 pm
Thursday, August 16 - Transparent Language Training 6:00 pm
Wednesday, August 22 - Teen Event - Jousting Tournament 4:00 pm
Wednesday, August 29 - Young Adult PaperCuts Book Club 4:00 pm
Thursday, August 30 - Ted Talk: Immigration 6:00 pm

Enterprise Branch
Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am
Wednesdays - Youth Activities 2:45 pm
Fridays - Toddler Music Time 11:30 am

Back to School @ Your Library

One of the biggest transitions in life can be going back to school. Whether it is adjusting to preschool or trying to navigate the halls of a new high school, it can be challenging to students of all ages to begin a new school year. One of the best tools for returning students is a library card! Whether you are a parent prepping for your child, or a college student getting ready for class, a library card gives you access to a world of free resources.

Books with school-related themes and settings are a natural choice for the first weeks of school, and may help relieve some of the jitters and anxiety that accompany being in a new situation.

Here are some suggested titles to help your child get ready to launch into the school year ahead:

Preschool
Llama Llama Misses Mama by Anna Dewdney
Maisy Goes to Preschool by Lucy Cousins
Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes by James Dean
How Do Dinosaurs Go To School by Jane Yolen

Kindergarten
Froggy Goes to School by Jonathan London
Kindergarten Rocks by Katie Davis
Lookout Kindergarten, Here I Come by Nancy Carlson
A Place Called Kindergarten by Jessica Harper
First Day Jitters by Julie Danneberg

Elementary
Follow the Line to School by Laura Ljungkvist
Thank you, Mr. Falker by Patricia Polacco
The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt

Middle School
Diary of a 6th Grade Ninja by Marcus Emerson
Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney
6th Grade Can Really Kill You by Barthe DeClements

High School
Wonder by R.J. Palacio
Schooled by Gordon Korman
The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

There are hundreds of titles to choose from at the library, and you can find books, research assistance, language tutorials, and even personalized assistance by a genuine librarian available at your library branch. Check it all out @ Your Library!
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