

School August 2025

Volume 180 August 2025

Message From The Director

Histories Timeless Values

I recall from an English class the story of Sir Thomas More and his interaction with Henry VIII. This was so significant that plays and movies recount the details. The library has both the movie and the book. Robert Bolt titled the play "A Man For All Seasons: a Play in Two Acts" (also on DVD). Hollywood produced a film on this topic that won 6 Oscars (Best Actor, Best Picture, Best Cinematography, Best Director, Best Writing and Best Costume Design). Now you may wonder why you don't recall this epic Hollywood production that won so many awards, and to that I would say it was made in another time when such things were held in higher regard, in 1966. Years later a TV production (1988) starring Charlton Heston aired, not to be confused with the 1966 film.

Now I digress, and must give a disclaimer that I am not plugging the movie, the play, or TV show—just that the library has such material. Getting back to this era in English history, a pivotal time as King Henry VIII made some sweeping changes that not only influenced himself, but also everyday folks and their lives. More stands in contrast to others of the time who compromised their beliefs for personal gain or safety. You will probably recall that William Shakespeare also wrote a play based on the king and historical events (which the library can provide you).

Now back to Sir Thomas More, who was a man guided by conscience and convinced that his path of duty lay in the direction not prescribed by the king, other political contemporaries, or even close family who wanted him to compromise in preservation of life. This adherence to the path of duty landed him in jail, and his eventual martyrdom. Sir Thomas More in his lifetime was a lawyer, judge, philosopher, political leader, theologian, and a renowned Renaissance humanist. Under Henry VIII, he was Lord Chancellor (1529 – 1532). England was Catholic and the king wanted to form his own church for an annulment from his first wife to wed Anne Boleyn (who he later beheaded).

I really think the timeless lessons from history are not the plays or movies, but the underlying virtues found in the life of Sir Thomas More, who was the "man for all seasons." One who embodied in the quality of character and the types of attributes we too should reach toward and seek to incorporate. If we do, in the test of life, those who follow us also will remember us favorably. The type of things that he is remembered for include moral integrity in the political area, the idea of a guiding conscience, a life directed by core values, and the courage to follow convictions by staying true to God and

country. As a final timeless value from history, More is reported as stating at his execution, "I die the King's good servant, but God's first."



Man Anderson Director

Alan Anderson, Director Washington County Library System

Color Our World: Summer Reading Recap

This summer, the County Library System transformed into a vibrant canvas of imagination, creativity, and connection with our "Color Our World" Summer Reading Program. Over eight colorful weeks, we welcomed an incredible 4,393 participants—including 3,027 children, 651 teens, and 715 adults—each adding their own unique hue to our library's story.



Children painted their days with wonder as they explored magical worlds, discovered new facts, and let their imaginations run wild. Our library branches buzzed with energy as young readers filled their reading logs, attended engaging programs, and sparked conversations that lit up the room.

Teens brought bold, brilliant strokes of creativity and curiosity to the summer. Whether tackling reading challenges, joining game nights, or crafting with friends, their enthusiasm turned every program into a masterpiece of laughter, connection, and discovery.

Adults added rich layers of creativity and reflection to the mix, joining in with activities like book clubs, craft nights, and hands-on workshops. Each story they read and every moment they shared helped us weave a tapestry of community and lifelong learning.

Throughout the program, it was heartwarming to see families coloring their days with shared stories, friends bonding over books, and patrons of all ages bringing light and joy into our branches. Together, we turned every page into a celebration of imagination and connection.

As we close this vibrant chapter, we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined in, participated, and supported the program. Your enthusiasm helped color our world in the most beautiful ways.

We can't wait to see what next summer brings. Until then, keep reading, keep creating, and keep bringing color to your world—@ your Library!

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Employee Spotlight

I am pleased to present Candice Stoddard as the employee spotlight for July. She is a warm presence and dedicated to making a lasting impression on both patrons and coworkers. She is noted for helping patrons feel seen and welcomed to the library. She often is able to call patrons by name and makes a real effort to know and recognize individuals. This is a small, but powerful gesture which exemplifies the personal touch and care Candice brings



to the library each day—reminding us that connection begins with kindness and attentiveness.

Candice is also a team player through and through. When a substitute was unexpectedly unavailable, she stepped in without hesitation, staying late to support a coworker and to ensure the library had coverage. She didn't just fill a gap—she communicated clearly with the Branch Manager to ensure her shift change was documented. She shows in both large and small ways that simple things are important. These acts of responsibility reflect her professionalism and respect for others.

Outside of her outstanding customer service and work ethic, Candice brings a vibrant and thoughtful spirit to the library. An avid reader and podcast enthusiast—especially if true crime is on the table. She is always ready for a good recommendation or conversation. She loves traveling, has a dog, a cat, and finds joy in all things miniature. Candice continues to inspire with her intelligence, curiosity, and deep love of connecting with people and books. If you see Candice, congratulate her!

> - Alan Anderson, Director



New York Times Best Sellers -Hardcover Fiction and Nonfiction

FICTION:

- 1. An Inside Job by Daniel Silva
- 2. The Enchanted Greenhouse by Sarah Beth Durst
- 3. Three Shattered Souls by Mai Corland
- 4. Atmosphere
- by Taylor Jenkins Reid
- 5. Rose In Chains
- by Julie Soto
- 6. The Wedding People by Alison Espach
- 7. Never Flinch
- by Stephen King
- 8. The Girl I Was by Jeneva Rose
- 9. Onyx Storm
- by Rebecca Yarros
- 10. The Women in Suite 101 by Ruth Ware

NONFICTION:

- 1. The Idaho Four by James Patterson and Vicky Ward
- 2. Algospeak
- by Adam Aleksic
- 3. The Mission
- by Tim Weiner
- 4. Butler
- by Salena Zito
- 5. The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt
- 6. JFK
- by J. Randy Taraborrelli
- 7. Mark Twin
- by John Green
- 8. Everything Is Tuberculosis
- by John Green
- 9. On Her Game
- by Christine Brennan
- 10. Abundance by Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson



Whether you're soaking up the dog days of summer or gearing up for back-to-school season, the library's got your movie night covered! Cool off with our latest DVD arrivals—packed with blockbusters, family favorites, and binge-worthy series—all totally free with your library card. Check out a few of these newest titles @ your library:

MOVIES

- Final Destination: Bloodlines
- · Rule of Jenny Pen
- **Shadow Force**
- Sidekicks
- Sinners
- Until Dawn
- Let's Discover Switzerland

TELEVISION

- Attenboroughs Life Journey
- Grantchester Season 10
- Groucho & Cavett: **American Masters**
- Murdoch Mysteries- Season 18
- Fallout Season 1
- Patience Season 1

We know August can hit the wallet hard—new shoes, school supplies, lunch boxes, and about a million pencils. Borrowing DVDs from the library is one smart way to stretch your budget while still enjoying quality entertainment. Why pay for streaming or rentals when your next movie night is waiting—free of charge—on our shelves? Swing by today and let the move magic begin!

Library Programs and Events

Enterprise Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 11:00 am * Begins Aug. 20th Wednesdays - Youth Activities 3:00 pm *Begins Aug. 20th

Hildale Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 11:00 am *Begins Aug. 13th Monday, August 4 - LEGO Club Plus 5:00 pm
Wednesday, August 13 - Anime Club 4:45 pm
Wednesday, August 13 - Teen Art Class 5:00 pm
Tuesday, August 19 - STEM Lab 3:00 pm
Saturday, August 23 - Afternoon Movie 1:30 pm
Tuesday, August 26 - Creative Kids 5:00 pm
Wednesday, August 27 - Teen Art Class 5:00 pm
Thursday, August 28 - Books n' Bites Book Club 5:00 pm

Hurricane Branch

Mondays - Thursday - Story Time 10:30 am
Tuesdays - Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm
Wednesdays - D& D Meet Up 5:00 pm
Wednesdays - Dungeons & Dragons 6:00 pm
Fridays - Dungeons & Dragons 6:00 pm
Friday, August 1 - Readers Circle Book Club 3:00 pm
Saturday, August 9 - Amateur Radio Club Testing 1:00 pm
Monday, August 11 & 25 - Board Games for Adults 6:00 pm
Tuesday, August 12 - Arts & Crafts Club 4:00 pm
Wednesday, August 13 & 27 - Crochet Club 3:30 pm
Thursday, August 14 & 28 - LEGO Club 4:00 pm
Thursday, August 21 - Reading with Molly 4:00 pm
Tuesday, August 26 - Teen Time 4:00 pm

New Harmony Branch

Mondays - Adult Art Class 1:00 pm Tuesdays - Sit n' Stitch 1:00 pm Wednesdays - Story Time 11:00 am Thursdays - Adult Exercise Class 11:15 am

Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am *Begins August 20th

Wednesdays - Teens After School 3:00 pm *Begins August 13th

Santa Clara Branch

Thursdays - Toddler Time 10:30 & 11:30 am *Begins August 21st
Thursdays - Chess Club 4:00 pm
Saturdays - Tai Chi 10:30 am
Saturday, August 2 - Curious Minds Book Club 1:00 pm
Saturday, August 2 - Red Rooks Chess Club 3:00 pm
Friday, August 8 - Art 4 Kids 4:00 pm
Monday, August 11 - Lego Club 4:00 pm
Tuesday, August 12 - Chapter One Book Club 3:30 pm
Friday, August 15- Root Beer Float Book Club for Kids 3:00 pm *sign-up required Saturday, August 16 - "Lego" Back-to-School Party 2:00 pm

Springdale Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am Wednesday, August 13 - Adult Book Club 11:30 am Wednesday, August 27 - 'Tween Book Club 4:00 pm Thursday, August 28 - Adult Craft Night 5:00 pm

Thursday, August 21 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm

Tuesday, August 26 - Adult Paint Night 4:00 pm

Library Programs and Events

Washington Branch

Tuesdays - Story Time 10:00 & 11:00 am
Wednesdays - Fridays - Story Time 10:30 am
Teen Activities - Wednesdays 4:00 pm
Monday, August 4 - Heart Healthy Eating 4:00 pm
Thursday, August 7 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm
Tuesday, August 19 - Tech Tuesday 4:00 pm
Thursday, August 21 - Book Ends Book Club 4:30 pm
Tuesday, August 26 - Arts & Crafts Club 2:00 pm

St. George Branch

Mondays - English/Spanish Story Time 3:00 pm
Mondays- Afternoon Story Time 1:00 pm
Weds. -Story Time 10:00, 11:00, 2:00 & 5:00 pm
Thursdays - Toddler Time 11:00 am
Fridays- Toddler Time 11:00 am
Saturdays - Movie Matinee 2:00 pm
Monday, August 4 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm
Tuesday, August 12 - Page Turners Book Club 2:30 pm
Wednesday, August 20 - Chapters and Chips 'Tween Book Club 4:00 pm
Tuesday, August 26 - Block Busters Book & Movie Club 6:00 pm

Back to School? Your Library Has Your Back!

As backpacks get loaded, lunch boxes packed, and alarm clocks reintroduced, there's one place that can help ease the transition from summer fun to school success: your local library. The Washington County Library System offers a wide range of free tools to make the school year smoother and more successful for students and parents alike.

Smart Starts Here

From picture books to challenging reads, e-books to audiobooks, our shelves (and digital shelves!) are full of materials to support school projects, personal interests, and everything in between. Regular visits help spark a love for reading and build strong literacy skills.

Homework Help, Anytime

Our premium Gale databases provide reliable, age-appropriate content for students from elementary to college level—perfect for research and assignments. Just head to our website, click "Research & Databases," and look for the Gale Premium tab.

Tech Access for All

Need internet or a computer? Each library branch offers free access to technology and educational software—ideal for students completing homework or building digital skills.

More Than Just Books

We also offer storytimes, workshops, and family-friendly events that make learning fun and interactive. It's a great way

to connect, grow, and learn together.

This school year, let your library be your partner in learning. Stop by or visit us online and discover everything we have to offer—because success starts here!



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	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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