The Book DROP
Washington County Library System
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July 2026

Message From The Director

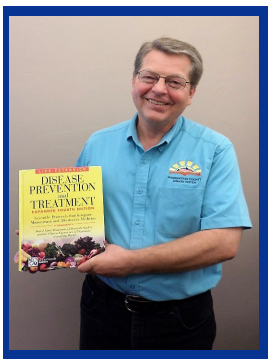
Did You Know?

Prior to getting to the title, I need to set the stage—which is American at 250 years of age (America 250). I am sure most if not all, have seen and are aware of this momentous event in the country's history. This really is a big deal, and the library system has been doing things all year to commemorate this event. With that said, July feels like the central feature with the upcoming 4th celebrations, but even after the 4th we plan to continue to the end of the year highlighting the 250th anniversary. With the backdrop now being set, I turn to the "Did you Know" content.

One of our anthems, near and dear to most of our hearts, is "America the Beautiful". Did you know it was first written as a poem, prior to being set to music? The poet was Katharine Lee Bates. I quote: "Katharine Lee Bates described her inspiration for writing 'America the Beautiful,' the poem that would evolve into one of the nation's best-loved patriotic songs, during a trip to Pike's Peak in 1893. Bates was a professor at Wellesley and had traveled west to teach a summer course in Colorado Springs". https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-resources/spotlight-primary-source/america-beautiful-1893

While the lyrics were written by Katharine Lee Bates, the music was composed by Samuel A. Ward. As we know, this is not the national anthem but is often considered an unofficial or favorite anthem. Bates revised the lyrics several times, with the final version we know today solidified in 1913. The song celebrates the ideals of the United States. The inspiration came while looking out over the expanse as viewed from the top of Pike's Peak in Colorado. It was more than just the vision of the moment, but the vision of past experiences and of deep patriotism. The first publication of the poem was found in The Congregationalist on July 4, 1895. The musical version was set to Samuel Ward's melody, originally titled "Materna," and was paired with the lyrics. This was not a collaboration between the two people, as the two never met.

The song has been a part of American culture for over a century, with its lyrics emphasizing themes of natural beauty, patriotism, and unity. "America the Beautiful" is widely sung at patriotic events and is often viewed as a powerful expression of national pride. The song's focus is on our nation's beauty, spacious skies, amber waves of grain, purple mountains, and such. It speaks of patriotism, and love of country. A focus on ideals, brotherhood, unity, and a desire for harmony among the people.



I am proud to be an American and wish you each a wonderfully grand July.

Alan Anderson, Director
Washington County Library System

Unearth a Story: Growing Readers, Strengthening Our Community

The Summer Reading Program continues to be the Washington County Library System's most anticipated annual tradition, inspiring more than 6,000 readers of all ages to discover new adventures through books each summer. This year's theme, Unearth a Story, invites our community to dig into history, uncover exciting new worlds, and discover the treasures waiting inside every book.

Summer should be filled with fun—and reading is one of the best adventures of all. For children, spending just a little time reading each week helps prevent the "summer slide," keeping reading skills strong and making the return to school easier and more successful. For teens and adults, reading reduces stress, expands knowledge, sparks creativity, and helps keep the mind active and engaged. No matter your age, every page turned is an investment in lifelong learning.

Programs like this don't happen by chance. They happen because of an extraordinary community that believes literacy changes lives. We are deeply grateful to our generous sponsors, whose support allows us to provide prizes, coupons, gift certificates, and special incentives that encourage readers to keep turning pages all summer long. Their generosity fills the gap where library funding ends, helping us create a program that is welcoming, exciting, and accessible to everyone.

To our sponsors, thank you for investing in the readers—and the future—of Washington County. Your partnership helps children build confidence, encourages teens to develop lifelong reading habits, and reminds adults that it's never too late to discover something new. Every contribution helps create stronger readers, stronger families, and a stronger community.

We invite you to visit your local library to see our sponsor recognition display. If you have the opportunity, please join us in thanking these remarkable businesses and organizations. Their generosity helps us inspire thousands of readers each summer and ensures that together, we continue to Unearth a Story—one book, one reader, and one unforgettable summer at a time.

Library Board Members:

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Employee Spotlight

I am pleased to present Benjamin Smith as the employee spotlight for the month of June.

He prefers to be called Benji, and points out it was his preference and name even before it was used in movies or other venues—he's sticking with it. He just crossed his one-year anniversary mark with the library on the 23rd of June. Prior to the library, he spent many years teaching college students Spanish. Even earlier than that he started life in Cheyenne Wyoming, and loves the west.

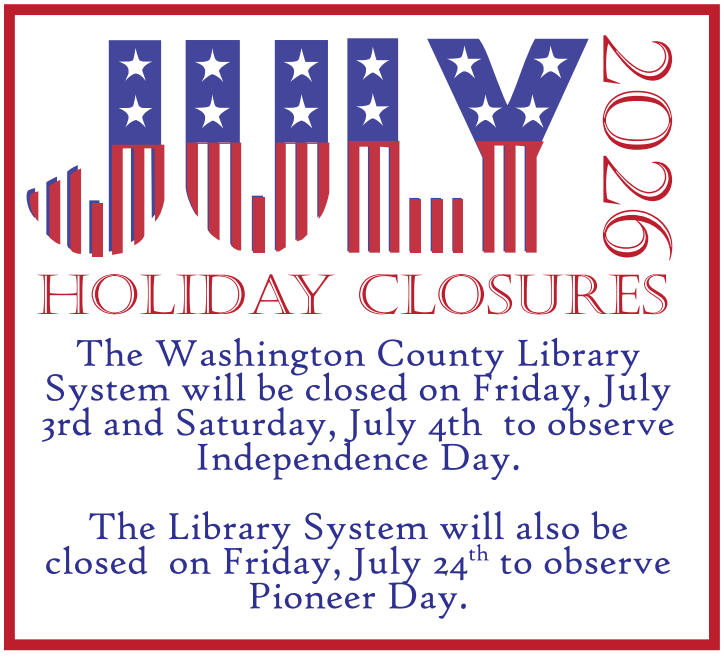
Benji is the Reference Supervisor in St. George. He has an attitude of positive enthusiasm which has been felt by staff and patrons alike. He's willing to do whatever is needed or asked, to help with the library system including moving shelves after dark (ask him for the story).

Benji has supported his staff with their programming needs and ideas. He has led the book club in St. George in creative and interactive ways. He has a passion for books and language that is contagious. He communicates with others in English or Spanish or French or Italian or Portuguese or other dialects we may not know about.

Family is important to him, and over the last year we have seen him travel to see children in far-flung places. This includes a son that studied on the east coast and was just minted as a newly awarded Master's degree graduate.

Please join in congratulating him as the June Spotlight for the library.

- Alan Anderson, Director



Celebrate America's 250th Anniversary with a collection of films that showcase the people, events, innovations, and ideals that have helped shape the American story. Whether you're interested in history, adventure, sports, science, or family favorites, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Stop by the library, check out a FREE DVD with your library card, and make movie night part of your Fourth of July celebration! Check out some of these movies:

American History

- The Patriot
- Lincoln
- John Adams (Mini-Series)
- Turn: Washington's Spies (Season 1-3)
- The Crossing
- Gettysburg

Fourth of July Favorites

- Independence Day
- Yankee Doodle Dandy
- Born on the Fourth of July
- Hidden Figures
- National Treasure
- Forrest Gump
- The Sandlot
- Apollo 13

Grab some popcorn, gather your family and friends, and celebrate 250 years of American history, ingenuity, and adventure—one movie at a time. Best of all, you can check out these films and thousands more for free with your library card! So sit back, relax, and let the stars, stripes, and silver screen help you celebrate America's 250th anniversary!

New York Times Best Selling Book Titles - Hardcover Fiction and Nonfiction Titles

FICTION:

1. *Yesteryear by Caro Claire Burke*
2. *Whistler by Ann Patchett*
3. *The Calamity Club by Kathryn Stockett*
4. *It Could Have Been Her by Lisa Jewell*
5. *Weddings by Danielle Steel*
6. *The Correspondent by Virginia Evans*
7. *Carl's Doomsday Scenario by Matt Dinniman*
8. *The Dungeon Anarchist's Cookbook by Matt Dinniman*
9. *Our Perfect Storm by Carley Fortune*
10. *Land by Maggie O'Farrell*

NONFICTION:

1. *Regime Change by Maggie Haberman and Jonathan Swan*
2. *Communion by JD Vance*
3. *Revolution by Eric Metaxas*
4. *Strangers by Belle Burden*
5. *The Land And Its People by David Sedaris*
6. *Courage Can Save Us by Rye Barcott*
7. *Stripped Down by Bunnie Xo*
8. *London Falling by Patrick Radden Keefe*
9. *The Greatest Sentence Ever Written b y Walter Isaacson*
10. *The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt*

Library Programs and Events

Enterprise Branch

Wednesday,July 1 - Summer Reading 2:00 pm
Wednesday, July 8 -Summer Reading TBA
Monday, July 13 - Patriotic Classes * Sign-up required 11:00 am
Tuesday, July 14 - Patriotic Classes *Sign-up required 11:00 pm
Wednesday, July 15 - Summer Reading Patriotic Games 11:00 am
Wednesday, July 15 - Summer Reading Liberty Village 3:00 pm
Monday, July 20 - Dinosaur Minecraft 11:00 am (age 8+, sign-up required)
Wednesday, July 22 - Summer Reading Bike Rodeo 10:00 am
Wednesday, July 22 - Summer Reading Ryan Gray Magician 3:00 pm

Hildale Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 11:00 am
Tuesday, July 7 - Kid's Summer Reading Ancient Civilizations 11:00 am
Wednesday, July 8 - Teen Summer Reading Paint Night 3:00 pm
Thursday, July 9 - Adult Summer Reading - Patriotic Paint Night 4:30 pm
Tuesday, July 14 - Kid's Summer Reading Origami 1:30 pm
Wednesday, July 15 - Teen Summer Reading Fossil Fest 3:00 pm
Tuesday, July 21 - Kid's Summer Reading Dinosaurs 11:00 am
Thursday, July 23 - Books n' Bites Book Club
Monday, July 20 - Adult Summer Reading - Mosaic Coasters 5:00 pm
Wednesday, July 22 - Teen Summer Reading Art Class 5:00 pm
Tuesday, July 28 - SUU Animal Ambassadors 11:00 am

Hurricane Branch

Mondays- Story Time 10:30 am
Tuesdays - Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm
Wednesdays - Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm
Fridays - Dungeons & Dragons 6:00 pm
*Junior Dungeons & Dragons Series - July 1, 6, 7, 15, 20, 21 4:00 pm
Tuesday, July 7 -Kid's Summer Reading - Red Cliffs Reserve 10:30 & 11:30 am
Thursday, July 9 - Adult Summer Reading Fairy & Apothecary Bottles 5:30 pm
Friday, July 10 - Readers Circle Book Club 3:00 pm
Tuesday, July 14 - Kid's Summer Reading - Origami Lady 10:00 & 11:00 am
Tuesday,July 14 - Teen Summer Reading - Teen ASL Class 4:L00 pm
Tuesday, July 21 - Kid's Summer Reading - Magician Ryan Gray 10:30 am & 12:00 pm
Tuesday, July 28 - Teen Summer Reading - Nailed It Art Class 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
Thursday, July 2 - Summer Reading Celebrate America 1:00 pm
Thursday, July 9 - Summer Reading Dino Museum 1:00 pm
Friday, July 10 - Adult & Teen Summer Reading - Paint Night 2:00 pm
Thursday, July 16 - Summer Reading Origami Lady 1:00 pm
Thursday, July 23 - Summer Reading Reptiles & Revelry 1:00 pm

Springdale Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am
Wednesdays - Teen Time 4:00 pm
Tuesday, July 1 - Teen Summer Reading - History Project 2:00 pm
Wednesday, July 2 - Kid's Summer Reading - Red Desert Reserve 3:00 pm
Tuesday, July 8 - Teen Summer Reading - Archeology 2:00 pm
Wednesday, July 9 - Kid's Summer Reading - Zion NP Rangers 3:00 pm
Wednesday, July 15 - Teen Summer Reading - Scavenger Hunt 2:00 pm
Wednesday, July 16 - Kid's Summer Reading - Dinosaur Museum 3:00 pm
Tuesday, July 22 - Teen Summer Reading - Time Capsules 2:00 pm
Wednesday, July 23 - Kid's Summer Reading - Magic Show 3:00 pm
Friday, July 23 - Adult Summer Reading- Funny Face Garden Pot 5:00 pm

Library Programs and Events

St. George Branch

Mondays- Afternoon Story Time 1:00 pm
Weds. -Story Time 10:00, 11:00, 2:00 & 5:00 pm
Thursdays & Fridays - Toddler Time 11:00 am
Saturdays - Movie Matinee 2:00 pm
Tuesday, July 7, 14, & 212 - Civil War Lecture Series 10:30 am
Tuesday, July 7 - Kid's Summer Reading- Dino Museum 3:00 & 4:00
Thursday, July 9 - Teen Summer Reading - K-Pop Song Trivia 4:30 pm
Thursday, July 9 - Adult Summer Reading Moon Landing 6:00 pm
Tuesday, July 14 - Kid's Summer Reading - Origami Lady 4:30 pm
Thursday, July 16 - Teen Summer Reading - Paint Night 4:30 pm
Thursday, June 11 - Adult Summer Reading - Mark Twain 6:00 pm
Tuesday, July 21 - Children's Summer Reading - Magician 3:00 & 4:30 pm
Thursday, July 23 - Teen Summer Reading - Are You Smarter than a Librarian? 4:30 pm
Tuesday, July 25 - Kid's Summer Reading Finisher Party TBA
Thursday, July 30 - Teen Summer Reading Finisher Party 4:30

Santa Clara Branch

Thursdays - Chess Club 4:00 pm
Saturdays - Tai Chi for Adults 10:30 am
Saturdays - Chess Club * check for time
Mondays - LEGO Challenge 4:00 pm
Wednesday, July 1 - Kid's Summer Reading - Minecraft Block Party 10:00 - 12:00
Tuesday, July 7 - Teen Summer Reading - Are You Smarter than a Librarian? 11:00 am
Tuesday, July 7 - Adult Summer Reading - Diamond Art 4:00 pm
Wednesday, July 8 - Kid's Summer Reading - Home Depot Day 10:00 am
Tuesday, July 14- Teen Summer Reading - Bad Art Day 11:00 am
Tuesday, July 14 - Chapter One Book Club 3:30 pm
Wednesday, July 15 - Kid's Summer Reading - Mad Scientist 10:00 & 11:00 am
Tuesday, July 21 - Teen Summer Reading - Movie and Pizza Party 11:00 am
Wednesday, July 22 - Kid's Summer Reading - Drive In Movie 10:00, 1:30 & 4:30
*Registration required
Tuesday, July 28 - Adult Summer Reading - Paint Night 4:00 pm

Washington Branch

Tuesdays - Story Time 10:00 & 11:00 am
Wednesdays - Fridays - Story Time 10:30 am
Wednesday, July 1 - Teen Summer Reading - Mario-kart Tourney 4:00 pm
Monday, July 6 - Children's Summer Reading - Home Depot 1:00 & 2:00 pm
Tuesday, July 7 - Adult Summer Reading Virtual Tour 5:30 pm
Wednesday, July 8 - Teen Summer Reading - Model UN Zombie Outbreak 4:00 pm
Monday, July 13 - Children's Summer Reading - Origami Lady 2:00 & 3:00 pm
Wednesday, July 15 - Teen Summer Reading -Raiders of the Lost Ark Movie 4:00 pm
Thursday, July 16 - Book Ends Book Club 4:30 pm
Monday, July 20 - Children's Summer Reading - Ryan Gray Magician 1:00 & 3:00 pm
Wednesday, July 22 - Teen Summer Reading - Big Brother Speed Round 4:00 pm
Tuesday, July 28 - Adult Arts & Crafts Club 2:00 pm

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 St. George Library 10:00, 11:00, 2:00 & 5:00 Story Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Teen Summer Reading Hurricane Library 4:00 pm Jr. Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 11:00 am Story Time Springdale Library 10:30 am Story Time 2:00 pm Teen Summer Reading Santa Clara Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Children's Summer Reading Hildale Library 11:00 am Story Time 3:00 pm Teen Summer Reading Enterprise Library 11:00 am Summer Reading 3:00 pm Summer Reading	**2** St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 4:00 pm LEGO Club Santa Clara Library 4:00 pm Chess Club New Harmony Library 11:15 am Adult Exercise Class Springdale Library 3:00 pm Children's Summer Reading	**3** We will be closed on July 3rd & 4th to observe Independence Day 	**4**
5	**6** St. George Library 1:00 pm Reading with Jill New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Adult Art Class Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time Washington Library 1:00 pm Children's Summer Reading 2:00 pm Children's Summer Reading	**7** Washington Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Story Time Hurricane Library 10:30 & 11:30 am Children's Summer Reading 4:00 pm Jr. Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Sit n' Stitch St. George Library 3:00 & 4:00 pm Children's Summer Reading Santa Clara Library 11:00 am Teen Summer Reading Hildale Library 11:00 am Children's Summer Reading	**8** St. George Library 10:00, 11:00, 2:00 & 5:00 Story Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Teen Event Hurricane Library 3:30 pm Crochet Club 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 11:00 am Story Time Springdale Library 10:30 am Story Time 11:30 am Book Club 2:00 pm Teen Summer Reading Santa Clara Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Children's Summer Reading Hildale Library 11:00 am Story Time 3:00 pm Teen Summer Reading	**9** St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time 6:00 pm Adult Summer Reading Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 4:00 pm LEGO Club Santa Clara Library 4:00 pm Chess Club New Harmony Library 11:15 am Adult Exercise Class Springdale Library 3:00 pm Children's Summer Reading	**10** St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 6:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons	**11** Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Tai Chi for Adults 2:00 pm Chess Club St. George Library 2:00 pm Movie Matinee
12	**13** St. George Library 1:00 pm Reading with Jill New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Adult Art Class Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time Washington Library 1:00 pm Children's Summer Reading 2:00 pm Children's Summer Reading	**14** Washington Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Story Time Hurricane Library 10:30 & 11:30 am Children's Summer Reading 4:00 pm Jr. Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Sit n' Stitch St. George Library 3:00 & 4:00 pm Children's Summer Reading Santa Clara Library 11:00 am Teen Summer Reading Hildale Library 11:00 am Children's Summer Reading	**15** St. George Library 10:00, 11:00, 2:00 & 5:00 Story Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Teen Event Hurricane Library 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 11:00 am Story Time Springdale Library 10:30 am Story Time 2:00 pm Teen Summer Reading Santa Clara Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Children's Summer Reading Hildale Library 11:00 am Story Time 3:00 pm Teen Summer Reading Enterprise Library 11:00 am Summer Reading 3:00 pm Summer Reading	**16** St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time 4:30 pm Teen Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:30 pm Book Ends Book Club Hurricane Library 4:00 pm Reading with Molly Santa Clara Library 4:00 pm Chess Club 4:00 pm P.A.W.S. for Tales New Harmony Library 11:15 am Adult Exercise Class Springdale Library 3:00 pm Children's Summer Reading	**17** St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 6:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons Santa Clara Library 4:00 pm Kid's Root Beer Float Book Club *registration required	**18** Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Tai Chi for Adults 2:00 pm Chess Club St. George Library 2:00 pm Movie Matinee
19	**20** St. George Library 1:00 pm Reading with Jill New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Adult Art Class Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time Washington Library 1:00 pm Children's Summer Reading 2:00 pm Children's Summer Reading	**21** Washington Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Story Time Hurricane Library 10:30 & 11:30 am Children's Summer Reading 4:00 pm Jr. Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Sit n' Stitch St. George Library 3:00 & 4:00 pm Children's Summer Reading Santa Clara Library 11:00 am Teen Summer Reading Hildale Library 11:00 am Children's Summer Reading	**22** St. George Library 10:00, 11:00, 2:00 & 5:00 Story Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 3:30 pm Crochet Club New Harmony Library 11:00 am Story Time Springdale Library 10:30 am Story Time 2:00 pm Teen Summer Reading Enterprise Library 11:00 am Summer Reading 3:00 pm Summer Reading Hildale Library 11:00 am Story Time Santa Clara Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Children's Summer Reading	**23** St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 4:00 pm LEGO Club Santa Clara Library 4:00 pm Chess Club New Harmony Library 11:15 am Adult Exercise Class Springdale Library 3:00 pm Children's Summer Reading 5:00 pm Adult Summer Reading Paint Night	**24** PIONEER DAY The Library System will beclosed on July 24th in observance of Pioneer Day.	**25** Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Tai Chi for Adults 2:00 pm Chess Club St. George Library 2:00 pm Movie Matinee
26	**27** St. George Library 1:00 pm Reading with Jill New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Adult Art Class Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time	**28** Washington Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Story Time Hurricane Library 10:30 & 11:30 am Children's Summer Reading 4:00 pm Jr. Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Sit n' Stitch St. George Library 3:00 & 4:00 pm Children's Summer Reading Santa Clara Library 11:00 am Teen Summer Reading Hildale Library 11:00 am Children's Summer Reading	**29** St. George Library 10:00, 11:00, 2:00 & 5:00 Story Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 3:30 pm Crochet Club New Harmony Library 11:00 am Story Time Springdale Library 10:30 am Story Time Hildale Library 11:00 am Story Time	**30** St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 4:00 pm LEGO Club Santa Clara Library 4:00 pm Chess Club New Harmony Library 11:15 am Adult Exercise Class	**31** St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 6:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons	