

The Book DROP

Washington County Library System

Volume 185 January 2026

Message From The Director

Tradition! ... Tradition! ... Tradition!

I recently re-watched the classic movie, "Fiddler on the Roof". It will probably not surprise you that the library has a copy of this that you also can check out. In Fiddler on the Roof, "Tradition" is the opening number and the core idea of the story. "Tradition" explains how the Russian-Jewish villagers of Anatevka understand their lives and identities. Traditions give them: Stability; Rules for how to live, work, marry, and worship; A sense of who they are and where they belong.

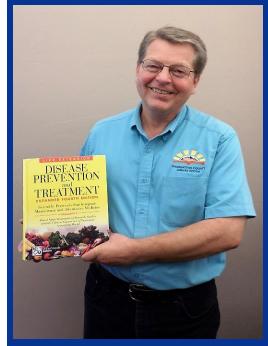
Tevye compares tradition to a fiddler balancing on a roof—life and tradition help us keep balance. Examples of traditions shown in different groups in the village explain their roles: Fathers provide and make decisions; Mothers maintain the home and raise children; Sons learn trades and religious customs; Daughters prepare for marriage; Matchmaker negotiates and arranges marriages; Rabbi preserves religious law and learning.

Each role is passed down through generations, and the entire musical explores what happens when traditions are challenged by younger generations who want change. Traditional value systems can have outside pressures that conflict with customs and ideas. Tevye struggles to balance tradition with love for his daughters, which drives the main conflicts of the play. The musical doesn't say tradition is bad—but it asks the question of how much can tradition bend before it breaks.

We recently just passed Christmas and New Year's, and both of these hold traditions which make them meaningful individually and in societies around the globe.

On the evening of Christmas Eve, Icelanders embrace a heartwarming tradition known as "Jólabókaflóð," which translates to the "Christmas Book Flood." This charming custom combines two great loves: books and coziness. As the day turns into night and the stars twinkle above, families come together in their festively decorated homes. The air is filled with the delightful aroma of the Christmas meal. But before they delve into the culinary delights, there's another tradition to uphold. It all begins with the exchange of books. Each family member gives and receives a book, creating a sense of anticipation and excitement.

Denmark is usually associated with cozy concepts like *hygge*, but New Year's is a totally different story. At midnight, Danes will jump off a chair or sofa—literally jumping into the New Year. It's seen as good luck if you do and bad luck if you don't, so be sure to take a leap if you ever ring in New Year's in Denmark. They also have a tradition of breaking plates, which represents the act of removing negative energy and ill will.



We welcome in 2026, and invite you to the library to keep old traditions or make new traditions!

Alan Anderson
Alan Anderson, Director
Washington County Library System

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 2026

Hello, 2026! A New Chapter Begins



A brand-new year is like opening a book for the very first time—crisp pages, endless possibilities, and the promise of a great story ahead. As we welcome 2026, the

library is here to help you turn the page with curiosity, creativity, and maybe a little inspiration tucked between the covers. Whether your resolution is to read more, learn something new, or simply find a cozy place to recharge, your library card is the perfect place to start.

Libraries are more than shelves of books—we're community hubs, idea factories, and gathering places where stories come to life. From author talks and hands-on workshops to book clubs, movies, and programs for all ages, 2026 is shaping up to be a year filled with opportunities to explore, connect, and grow.

And if your 2026 resolution includes "try something new," the library has you covered—no strings attached, just a library card! Explore our makerspace, tinker with 3D printers, dive into the audio-visual lab, or experiment with AV equipment. Peek at the stars through a telescope or step into another world with virtual reality. Whether it's creating, discovering, or just having fun, there's a new adventure waiting around every corner—why not make this the year you try one new thing at the library?

Here's to a year of new stories, shared experiences, and lifelong learning. Welcome to 2026—your next chapter starts here!

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New York Times Best Sellers - Hardcover Fiction and Nonfiction

FICTION:

1. *The Widow*
by John Grisham
2. *The Secrets of Secrets*
by Dan Brown
3. *The Correspondent*
by Virginia Evans
4. *Mona's Eyes*
by Thomas Schlesser
5. *Alchemised*
by SenLin Yu
6. *Brimstone*
by Callie Hart
7. *Return of the Spider*
by James Patterson
8. *Dungeon Crawler Carl*
by Matt Dinniman
9. *The Intruder*
by Freida McFadden
10. *Twice*
by Mitch Albom

NONFICTION:

1. *The Look* by Michelle Obama with Meredith Koop
2. *1929*
by Andrew Ross Sorkin
3. *How to Test Negative for Stupid* by John Kennedy
4. *The Gales of November*
by John U. Bacon
5. *107 Days* by Kamala Harris
6. *The Anxious Generation*
by Jonathan Haidt
7. *To Rescue the American Spirit* by Bret Baier with Catherine Whitney
8. *Heart Life Music* by Kenny Chesney with Holly Gleason
9. *The American Revolution*
by Geoffrey C. Ward and Ken Burns
10. *Poems & Prayers*
by Matthew McConaughey



January is the perfect month to cozy up, hit play, and enjoy something new—and your library has you covered! Our shelves are freshly stocked with new movie and television DVDs, ready for checkout and binge-worthy enjoyment. From laugh-out-loud comedies and edge-of-your-seat dramas to family favorites and popular TV series, there's something for every mood and every member of the household. Best of all? They're completely FREE with your library card—no subscriptions, no hidden fees, and no guilt about watching "just one more episode."

MOVIES

- As You Like It (Bryce Dallas Howard Version)
- Beast of War
- Good Fortune (Seth Rogan)
- London Calling
- Killing Faith
- Relay

TELEVISION

- Fosse/Verdon
- Harry Wild - Season 4
- Seven Days - Season 1-3
- Sister Boniface - Season 4
- Remarkable Places to Die -Season 1
- Silent Witness - Season 28

After the hustle of the holidays, this is your official invitation to relax without breaking the budget. Skip the streaming costs, save your pennies, and treat yourself to top-notch entertainment straight from the library. Swing by, browse the collection, and let your next movie night (or weekend marathon) begin—because great entertainment should always be easy, affordable, and fun!

Employee Spotlight

I am pleased to recognize Jennifer Howe as the Employee Spotlight for December.

Jennifer is a Page at the St. George Branch library. She performs essential tasks like shelving books, organizing materials, shelf-reading (ensuring correct order), assisting our young patrons with locating items, and handling duties that keep our children's library collection accessible and organized. Jennifer has the amazing drive and skill to clean up a back room full of carts to be shelved within her shift. She is a fast shelver, and is always going above and beyond in her everyday work duties. Jennifer has her work flow organized to a point where she can clean up as she shelves without skipping a beat. One of the best things about Jennifer is her initiative and dedication to keeping the Children's Department picked-up and in order.

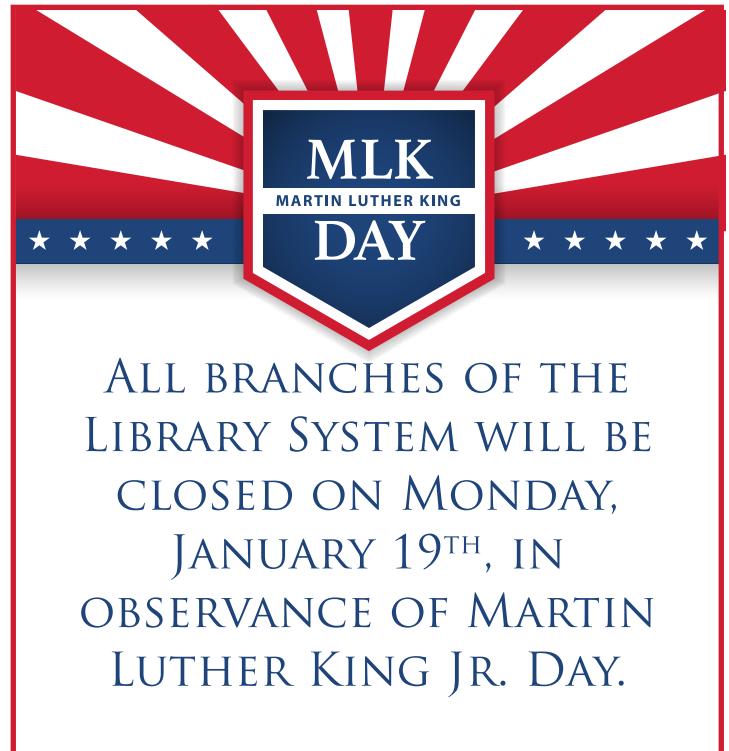


Jennifer started volunteering at the St. George library in 2010, and in 2014 she was hired as a part-time page. Keeping up the appearance of the Children's department is hard and repetitive, as people are coming, going, and leaving items all over, but Jennifer takes it all in stride and ensures that it stays tidy on her watch. She has a giving heart for community, and continues to volunteer around St. George while she works at the library.

Jennifer is very good at knowing where everything goes, and has a great work flow. Because of the way she organizes her work she is very fast and efficient. When patrons ask her where to find something she can usually take them right to it. Jennifer is a positive influence to those around her and inspires hard work. She is an amazing member of our children's team here in St. George.

Jennifer recently went to visit family in California, she also enjoys watching her favorite shows, and listening to audio books on her Libby app. Join us in congratulating her when you get the chance!

- Alan Anderson,
Director



Library Programs and Events

Enterprise Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 11:00 am
Wednesdays - Youth Activities 3:00 pm

Hildale Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 11:00 am
Monday, January 5 - LEGO Club 5:00 pm
Wednesday, January 7 - Anime Club 4:45 pm
Wednesday, January 7 - Teen Art Class 5:00 pm

Hurricane Branch

Mondays - Thursday- Story Time 10:30 am *no story time 1/19
Tuesdays - Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm
Wednesdays - D & D Meet Up 5:00 pm
Wednesdays - Dungeons & Dragons 7:00 pm
Fridays - Dungeons & Dragons 6:00 pm
Friday, January 9 - Readers Circle Book Club 3:00 pm
Wednesday, January 14 & 28 - Crochet Club 3:30 pm
Thursday, January 8 - LEGO Club 4:00 pm
Thursday, January 15 - Reading with Molly 4:00 pm
Tuesday, January 20 - Jr. Dungeons & Dragons A 4:00 pm
Wednesday, January 21 - Jr. Dungeons & Dragons B 4:00 pm
Thursday, January 22 - LEGO Club 4:00 pm
Tuesday, January 27 - 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
Friday, January 16 - Novel Ideas Book Club 1:00 pm

Santa Clara Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am
Wednesdays - Teens After School 3:00 pm
Thursdays - Toddler Time 10:30 & 11:30 am
Thursdays - Chess Club 4:00 pm
Fridays - Spanish Story Time 1:00 pm
Saturdays - Tai Chi 10:30 am
Saturdays - Chess Club 2:30 pm
Saturday, January 3 - Curious Minds Book Club 1:00 pm
Friday, January 9 - Art 4 Kids 4:00 pm
Monday, January 12 - Lego Club 4:00 pm
Tuesday, January 13 - Chapter One Book Club 3:30 pm
Thursday, January 15 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm
Friday, January 16 - Root Beer Float Book Club for Kids 4:00 pm *sign-up required
Saturday, January 24 - Family Movie 1:00 pm

Springdale Branch

Tuesdays - After School Club 4:00 pm
Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am
Wednesday, January 7 - Teen Time 4:00 pm
Wednesday, January 14 - Adult Book Club 11:30 am
Wednesday, January 14 - Teen Time 4:00 pm
Wednesday, January 21 - Tween Book Club 4:00 pm
Thursday, January 22 - Adult Night About the Stars 5:00 pm

Library Programs and Events

Washington Branch

Tuesdays - Story Time 10:00 & 11:00 am
Wednesdays - Fridays - Story Time 10:30 am
Monday, January 5 - Letter Writing Event 4:00 pm
Wednesday, January 7 - Teen Time 4:00 pm
Thursday, January 8 - Coding Club for Kids 4:00 pm
Thursday, January 8 - Author Talk "Rod Mayes" 6:00 pm
Monday, January 12 - Community Crochet Class 4:00 pm
Wednesday, January 14 - Teen Time 4:00 pm
Thursday, January 15 - Book Ends Book Club 4:30 pm
Tuesday, January 20 - Adult Tech Tuesday 4:00 pm
Wednesday, January 21 - Teen Time 4:00 pm
Thursday, January 22 - Coding Club for Kids 4:00 pm
Monday, January 26 - Community Crochet Club 4:00 pm
Tuesday, January 27 - Adult Arts & Crafts Club 2:00 pm
Wednesday, January 28 - Teen Time 4:00 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, January 5 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm
Tuesday, January 6 & 20 - Science Club for Kids 4:30 pm
Thursday, January 8, Adult Program 6:00 pm
Tuesday, January 13- Page Turners Book Club 2:30 pm
Tuesday, January 13 & 27 - Art Club for Kids 4:30 pm
Thursday, January 15 - Teen Night @ the Library 4:30 pm
Wednesday, January 21 - Chapters and Chips Tween Book Club 4:00 pm



New Year, New Stories! Some stories are just too good to stay on the page—and January is the perfect time to experience them in more than one way. Start the year with stories about fresh beginnings, personal growth, and a little self-discovery—because January is basically the reinvention montage of the calendar year.

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott brings timeless family bonds and big dreams, *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett offers powerful voices and perspective, and *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel invites readers and viewers into a story where survival meets imagination. Also worth revisiting are *The Pursuit of Happyness* by Chris Gardner and *Eat Pray Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert, both capturing the spirit of reflection and fresh starts.

Each of these adaptations proves that a strong story doesn't age—it just gets retold. Reading the book allows you to linger in the characters' thoughts and themes, while the movie and television versions add sweeping visuals and emotional impact. Read first, watch first, or do both and call it a very literary resolution.

Want to talk about it with people who love books and movies (or just great, lively conversation)? Join the Block Busters Book to Movie Club at the St. George Library, meeting the last Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. It's the perfect place to compare page vs. screen, share opinions, laugh about plot changes, and enjoy thoughtful discussion with fellow story lovers—popcorn and opinions welcome, spoilers discussed with care.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
		<h1>January 2026</h1>				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Spanish Story Time 1:00 pm Reading with Jill New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Adult Art Class Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time Washington Library 4:00 pm Letter Writing Event</p>	<p>Washington Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Story Time Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons Hildale Library 3:00 pm Kid Science New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Sit n' Stitch St. George Library 4:30 pm Science Club for Kids Springdale Library 4:00 pm After School Club</p>	<p>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 10:30 am Story Time 5:00 D&D Meet Up 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 11:00 am Story Time Springdale Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Teen Time Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Story Time 3:00 pm Teens After School Hildale Library 11:00 am Story Time 5:00 pm Teen Art Class</p>	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time 6:00 pm Adult Program Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Coding Club for Kids 6:00 pm Author Talk - Tod Mayes Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm LEGO Club Santa Clara Library 10:30 & 11:30 am Toddler Time 4:00 pm Chess Club New Harmony Library 11:15 am Adult Exercise Class</p>	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 3:00 pm Readers Circle Book Club 6:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons</p>	<p>Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Tai Chi St. George Library 2:00 pm Movie Matinee</p>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Spanish Story Time 1:00 pm Reading with Jill New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Adult Art Class Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time Washington Library 4:00 pm Community Crochet Class</p>	<p>Washington Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Story Time Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Sit n' Stitch St. George Library 2:30 pm Page Turners Book Club 4:30 pm Art Club for Kids Springdale Library 4:00 pm After School Club</p>	<p>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 10:30 am Story Time 3:30 pm Crochet Club 5:00 D&D Meet Up 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 4:00 pm Teen Time Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Story Time 3:00 pm Teens After School Hildale Library 11:00 am Story Time</p>	<p>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 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Reading with Molly Santa Clara Library 10:30 & 11:30 am Toddler Time 4:00 pm Chess Club New Harmony Library 11:15 am Adult Exercise Class</p>	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 6:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Novel Ideas Book Club Santa Clara Library 3:00 pm Kid's Root Beer Float Book Club *registration required</p>	<p>Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Tai Chi St. George Library 2:00 pm Movie Matinee</p>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	<p>MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY  I HAVE A DREAM</p>	<p>Washington Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Story Time Hurricane Library 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons Hildale Library 3:00 pm Kid Science New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Sit n' Stitch St. George Library 4:30 pm Science Club for Kids Springdale Library 4:00 pm After School Club</p>	<p>St. George Library 10:00, 11:00, 2:00 & 5:00 Story Time 4:00 pm Chapters & Chips Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Times New Harmony Library 11:00 am Story Time Springdale Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Teen Time Enterprise Library 11:00 am Story Time Hildale Library 11:00 am Story Time Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Story Time 3:00 pm Teens After School</p>	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Coding Club for Kids Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm LEGO Club Santa Clara Library 10:30 & 11:30 am Toddler Time 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 5:00 pm A Night About the Stars</p>	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 6:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons</p>	<p>Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Family Movie Day St. George Library 2:00 pm Movie Matinee</p>
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Spanish Story Time 1:00 pm Reading with Jill New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Adult Art Class Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time Washington Library 4:00 pm Community Crochet Class</p>	<p>Washington Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Story Time 2:00 pm Arts & Crafts Club Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Teen Time 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons Santa Clara Library 4:00 pm Adult Paint Night New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Sit n' Stitch St. George Library 4:30 pm Art Club for Kids 6:00 pm Block Busters Book & Movie Club Springdale Library 4:00 pm After School Club</p>	<p>St. George Library 10:00, 11:00 Story Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time New Harmony Library 11:00 am Story Time Springdale Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Teen Time Enterprise Library 11:00 am Story Time Hildale Library 11:00 am Story Time Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Story Time 3:00 pm Teens After School</p>	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time Santa Clara Library 10:30 & 11:30 am Toddler Time 4:00 pm Chess Club New Harmony Library 11:15 am Adult Exercise Class</p>	<p>St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time Hurricane Library 6:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons</p>	<p>Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Tai Chi St. George Library 2:00 pm Movie Matinee</p>