

Volume 184 December 2025



Message From The Director

Tis, The Season!

Happy Holidays from The Washington County Library, and as a staff we do wish "one and all" warm holiday greetings from the library! As the year winds down and the festive season begins we're excited to share seasonal events, reading picks, and ways you can celebrate with us this month. If you still have some shopping for the reader on your list, one recommendation is our book sale table—often we have donation duplicates that look like new (just a thought). Now back to the holiday stuff.

Please keep in mind our hours do get modified at both Christmas and New Year's. We will be closing early at 2:00 pm on both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, and all day on each respective holiday. As we gain momentum in moving toward the upcoming holiday events, we have some plans that include Santa at most locations. I say most because both Saint George and Santa Clara are going to have the Ginger Bread Man pay a visit. The last page of the newsletter has a listing by date of our locations and their activities, so I will not try to duplicate that with this limited space; however, some highlights are--giving trees at multiple locations, crafts, parties for Children--Teen--Adult all separately or some as families, and story times galore.

Holiday Reading Recommendations:

For Adults: A Redbird Christmas by Fannie Flagg; Winter Street by Elin Hilderbrand; Skipping Christmas by John Grisham; The Snow Child by Eowyn Ivey

For Teens: Let It Snow by John Green, Maureen Johnson & Lauren Myracle; The Nightmare Before Christmas by Megan Shepherd

For Kids: The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats; How the Grinch Stole Christmas! By Dr. Seuss; The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg

Christmas Music for Everyone: Christmas Once More (Carpenters); A Christmas Celebration by Celtic Woman; Trans-Siberian Orchestra; Pentatonix: That's Christmas to Me; Bing Crosby: Christmas Legends

Movies: It's a Wonderful Life with Jimmy Stewart; White Christmas; Home Alone; It's a Very Merry Muppet Christmas; Muppet Christmas Carol

If these suggestions didn't hit the spot, not to worry; we have staff to help fill your need for reads. Just like Santa, our librarians have lists and have curated a collection of items. They may include magical books for every reader, from heartwarming holiday stories to fantasy novels that transport you to enchanted worlds. Come

browse, or ask a librarian to help you find your next Christmas treasure.

We thank our patrons old and young, and hope you find some of the simple joys of life this Christmas season. Merry Christmas from the library!

Alan Anderson, Director

Alan Anderson, Director Washington County Library System

A Season of Stories @ Your Library

December is a month made for cozying up with good stories. Whether you're curling under a blanket, waiting for cookies to bake, or sneaking a quiet moment between holiday happenings, the library is here to keep your season bright with books, movies, music, and activities for all ages. Think of us as your hometown workshop of wonderminus the elves, though we do have some very dedicated staff who come close.

The holidays may be busy, but your library card is the secret ingredient for slowing down and savoring the season. With free access to thousands of books and DVDs, digital downloads, and streaming options, you can celebrate without stretching your budget. Want a heartwarming read? A snow-dusted romance? A how-to guide for making something festive? We've got shelf-loads of possibilities ready to be wrapped up in your imagination.

This month, our branches are buzzing with fun programs: craft nights, book clubs, storytimes, and special events that bring the community together. It's the perfect time to reconnect with neighbors, try something new, or let the kids explore hands-on creativity. And if you need a moment of calm, we always have a quiet corner waiting just for you.

December also marks the final stretch of our year-round reading challenges and clubs, so be sure to check in, log your progress, and pick up any surprises or rewards you've earned. And keep your

eyes open—January brings a fresh calendar of programs and adventures we can't wait to share.

As we turn the last page of the year, we're grateful for every patron who walks through our doors and every story shared along the way. Thank you for making the library a warm, joyful part of our community. From all of us at the Washington County Library System, we wish you a peaceful, merry, and book-filled holiday season.

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THE GIVING TREE

Spread Holiday Cheer this year and join the Washington County Library System's Donation Drives!

This holiday season, the Washington County Library System is teaming up with local charities to bring comfort, joy, and support to those in need. Your generosity can make a difference!

We're collecting essentials, gift cards, and toys, which will be distributed to organizations helping individuals, families, and furry friends. Even if your branch doesn't have a

Giving Tree, all donations will be forwarded to participating branches for distribution.

- St. George Library: Collecting for The Dove Center Santa Clara Library: Food Drive (Non-Perishables) Washington Library: Collecting for the Utah Food Bank

- New Harmony Library: Collecting for Iron County School District Teen Center

Look for our Giving Trees by the circulation desks! Each ornament lists a needed item — choose one, and return your donation between December 1st and December 20th.

Together, let's bring hope and happiness to our community. Thank you for your kindness and support!



Looking for a little holiday magic without spending a single penny? Good news! The library's shelves are fully stocked with brand-new DVDs and TV shows ready to whisk you away on winter adventures, cozy mysteries, laugh-out-loud comedies, and edge-of-your-seat dramas. Even better? They're absolutely FREE with your library card. That's right—zero dollars, zero stress, zero impact on the holiday gift budget. (We see you, shopping list. We see you.) Check out these new titles:

MOVIES

- Freakier Friday
- Naked Gun (Liam Neeson)
- · Light of the World
- Red Sonja (Matilda Lutz)
- Together
- Spinal Tap II: The End Continues

TELEVISION

- · Maigret-Season 1
- Rick and Morty Season 3
- House of David Season 1
- BabyLearningTV-Season 2
- Hummingbirds of Hollywood: Nature
- Happy's Place- Season 1

So before you commit to another streaming subscription or spend a fortune renting a movie you might only watch halfway through (no judgment—we've all dozed off with popcorn in hand), swing by your library! Borrowing your next binge-worthy favorite won't cost a thing, which means more room in the budget for hot cocoa, twinkly lights, and maybe that extra-fancy wrapping paper you swore you wouldn't buy this year. Come check out what's new—your wallet will thank you, and your holiday cheer meter just might hit "merry and bright."

Employee Spotlight

I am pleased to recognize Carrie Vaughn as the Employee Spotlight for November!

"Snacks, Switch, and Stories — Carrie makes teens feel at home." Carrie is an incredible full-time circulation desk clerk and Teen Program coordinator. She first joined the library in 2010, took a short break in 2015, and returned just six months later. Altogether, she's been part of our team for nearly 15 years, building strong connections with patrons and coworkers alike.



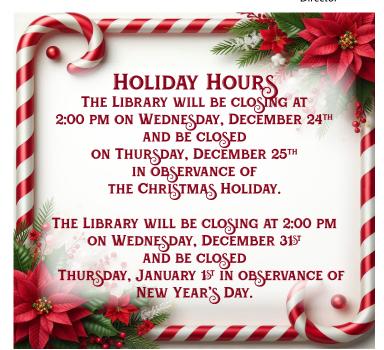
This year, Carrie stepped into the sole Teen Program coordinator role, and she's already made it her own. Every Wednesday afternoon, she hosts our Teen Afterschool program, creating a welcoming space where teens can relax, do homework, or dive into games. With access to VR headsets, a Nintendo Switch, and plenty of board games, Carrie ensures there's something for everyone — and she never forgets the snacks. Her Summer Reading Teen Program was a huge success, drawing a consistent group of teens who felt right at home under her guidance.

Beyond programming, Carrie plays a vital role behind the scenes. She manages the many book and "things" donations we receive, carefully sorting through boxes to rescue treasures from outdated or damaged items. The gems she finds either enrich our collection or support our popular book sales. She's also our resident Libby expert, helping patrons navigate eBooks and audiobooks with ease — from signing up to troubleshooting tricky holds.

Carrie's favorite part of working at the library is the people. Over her 15 years here, she's built lasting relationships with patrons and treasures the camaraderie she shares with her coworkers. Outside the library, Carrie loves hiking and walking year-round. And here's a fun fact: she's a passionate birder! She spends her free time watching birds, searching for "new-to-me" species, and learning everything she can about them.

Carrie is a wonderful member of the Washington County Library System! Please join with me 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 *no story time 12/17 & 12/31 Monday, December 1- LEGO Club 5:00 pm Wednesday, December 3 - Anime Club 4:45 pm Wednesday, December 10 - Teen Art Class 5:00 pm Tuesday, December 16 - Storytime with Santa 4:00 pm Wednesday, December 17 - Teen Art Class 5:00 pm Tuesday, December 30 - Noon Year's Eve Party 11:00 am

Hurricane Branch

Mondays - Thursday - Story Time 10:30 am *no story time 12/24 and 12/31 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, December 5 - Readers Circle Book Club 3:00 pm Monday, December 8 & 22 - Board Games for Adults 6:00 pm Wednesday, December 10- Crochet Club 3:30 pm Thursday, December 11 - LEGO Club 4:00 pm Tuesday, December 16 - Story Time Christmas Party 10:30 am Tuesday, December 16 - Jr. Dungeons & Dragons A 4:00 pm Wednesday, December 17 - Jr. Dungeons & Dragons B 4:00 pm

Friday, December 19 - Teen Cardboard Gingerbread House Contest 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, December 5 - Needle Felting Project 1:00 pm Wednesday, December 17 - Christmas Story Time 11:00 am Friday, December 19 - Novel Ideas Book Club 1:00 pm

Thursday, December 18 - Reading with Molly 4:00 pm

Santa Clara Branch

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 Tuesday, December 2 - Adult Paint Night 4:00 pm Saturday, December 6 - Curious Minds Book Club 1:00 pm

Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am

Saturday, December 6- Chess Club 3:00 pm

Saturday, December 6 - Teen Handmade Gifts Workshop 3:00 pm

Monday, December 8 - Lego Club 4:00 pm

Tuesday, December 9 - Chapter One Book Club 3:30 pm Friday, December 12 - Gingerbread Party 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Thursday, December 18 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm

Friday, December 19 - Root Beer Float Book Club for Kids 4:00 pm *sign-up required Saturday, December 20 - Family Movie "The Polar Express 1:00 pm

Springdale Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am Thursdays - After School Club 4:00 pm Wednesday, December 3 - Teen Time Christmas Craft 4:00 pm Wednesday, December 10 - Teen Time Dungeons & Dragons 4:00 pm Wednesday, December 17 - 'Tween Book Club 4:00 pm Thursday, December 18 - Story Time with Santa 5:00 pm Thursday, December 18 - Adult Craft Night 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, December 1 - Adult Christmas Karaoke 4:00 pm Wednesday, December 3 - Teen Night - Planning Meeting 4:00 pm Thursday, December 4 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm Wednesday, December 10 - Teen Night - Minecraft Day 4:00 pm Thursday, December 11 - Coding Club for Kids 4:00 pm Tuesday, December 16 - Tech Tuesday 4:00 pm Wednesday, December 17 - Teen End of Year Celebration 4:00 pm Thursday, December 18 - Book Ends Book Club 4:30 pm Tuesday, December 23- Arts & Crafts Club 2:00 pm Wednesday, December 24 - Children's Christmas Story Time

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, December 1 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm Tuesday, December 2 & 16 - Science Club for Kids 4:30 pm Thursday, December 4 - Adult Program "Ornament Painting" 6:00 pm *Sign-up Required Friday, December 5 - Children's Holiday Party 2:30 pm Tuesday, December 9- Page Turners Book Club 2:30 pm Tuesday, December 9 & 23 - Art Club for Kids 4:30 pm Thursday, December 11 - Adult Program - How The Earth Works 6:00 pm Wednesday, December 17 - Chapters and Chips 'Tween Book Club 4:00 pm Thursday, December 18- Teen Night @ the Library "Winter Party" 4:30 pm



It's that time of year again-when cocoa flows freely, twinkle lights magically multiply, and everyone swears they still remember where they hid last year's wrapping paper. The holiday season has officially arrived, and so has a sleighful of merry, magical, heartwarming (and sometimes hilariously chaotic) movies—all FREE with your library card. Snuggle up, press play, and let the holiday cheer begin!

It's a Wonderful Life (1946) - Take a stroll through Bedford Falls with George Bailey as an angel shows him just how much one life can brighten the world. A timeless reminder that even on the toughest days, we matter more than we know.

A Christmas Carol - Ebenezer Scrooge is in full "bah humbug" mode-until three very determined ghosts stage the ultimate holiday intervention. Whether you love classic Dickens, animated fun, or dramatic flair, we've got a version for every mood (and every ghostly persuasion).

A Christmas Story (1983) - Join Ralphie Parker on his quest for that iconic Red Ryder BB gun. Nostalgic, hilarious, and filled with holiday mishaps, this classic proves that sometimes the greatest gift is simply making it through Christmas dinner intact.

Elf (2003) - Buddy the Elf rockets into New York City with unshakable holiday cheer, questionable breakfast choices, and a mission to find his real dad. If you need a dose of joy, sparkle, or spontaneous singing, this one is pure Christmas magic.

The Polar Express (2004) - All aboard! This beautifully animated adventure takes a young boy on a mystical train ride to the North Pole. It's a story of wonder, belief, and hot chocolate served with maximum enthusiasm.

How the Grinch Stole Christmas - Whether you prefer the classic animated special or the lively live-action film, follow the Grinch as he discovers that even the smallest heart can grow three sizes—with just the right amount of Who-ville cheer.

SUNDA	Y	TUESDAY	°WEDNE&D4AA	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	St. George Library 11:00 am Spanish Story Time 1:00 pm Reading with Jill 4:00 pm P.A.W.S. for Tales New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Adult Art Class Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time Hildale Library 5:00 pm LEGO Club Plus	Washington Library 10:00 & 11:00 am Story Time St. George Library 4:30 pm Science Club for Kids Santa Clara Library 3:30 pm Chapter One Book Club Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm Arts & Crafts Club 7:00 pm Dungeons & Dragons New Harmony Library 1:00 pm Sit n' Stitch	3 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 1:00 pm Sit 'n Stitch Springdale Library 10:30 am Story Time 3:00 pm Teens After School Hiddale Library 11:00 am Story Time 3:00 pm Teens After School Hiddale Library 11:00 am Story Time 5:00 pm Teens After School	St. George Library 11:00 am Toddler Time 6:00 pm Adult Program Washington Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm PA.W.S. for Tales Hurricane Library 10:30 am Story Time 4:00 pm LEGO Qub Santa Clara Library 10:30 & 11:30 am Toddler Time 4:00 pm Chess Club New Harmony Library 11:15 am Adult Exercise Class	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 Needle Felting Program	Santa Clara Library 10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Curious Minds Book Club 3:00 pm Teen DIY Gift Workshop St. George Library 2:00 pm Movie Matinee	
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