

Volume 177 May 2025



Message From The Director Smile!

While considering a newsletter article for May, an interesting date was discovered on May 31st—National Smile Day! Now if this was a dental office, you can imagine the direction of the article; however, have you considered how a library can help improve your smile? Before we get to that we should establish the benefits of smiling listed by Verywell Mind: (see, https://www.verywellmind.com/top-reasons-to-smile-every-day-2223755)

- 1. Smiling Helps You Live Longer
- 2. Smiling Relieves Stress
- 3. Smiling Elevates Mood
- 4. Smiling Is Contagious
- 5. Smiling May Lower Blood Pressure
- 6. Smiling Boosts the Immune System
- 7. Smiling Reduces Pain
- 8. Smiling Makes You Attractive
- 9. Smiling Suggests Success
- 10. Smiling Helps You Stay Positive

Citing the list is sufficient for my purposes, but if you want to learn why in detail smiling is good for you the web address is included above. Now the benefits are listed we should look at how libraries help your smile, and let me assure you libraries are places that can bring smiles through stories, learning, and community. Have you considered a visit to the library can reduce stress and increase happiness? Libraries are more than just a place for books; they are spaces that foster personal growth, joy, and connection. In fact you have probably heard, laughter is the best medicine. We have material that will not only make you smile, but can even result in laughter. Consider the following which could bring a smile to your face:

- Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus by Mo Willems (children's book)
- Dennis the Menace, Warner Brothers (staring Mason Gamble, Walter Matthau, Christopher Lloyd)
- Books by Erma Bombeck, Tina Fey, Dave Barry, and such. . .

So many other items could be listed, but just as further confirmation of the concept: "A merry heart does good, like medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones." (Proverbs 17:22) Don't save your smile for the 31st, but smile everyday by making some trips to the

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library for some good stuff. It could save you dollars in prescription cost, doctor visits, therapists, or even postpone your trip to the mortician. At the library we have a lot to offer, so come check us out...

Alan Anderson, Director Washington County Library System



Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month at the Library! Each May, we recognize Asian Pacific American Heritage Month—a time to honor and celebrate the rich histories, cultures, and contributions of the more than 20 million Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent. Representing about 6% of the U.S. population, individuals from East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, the Pacific Islands, and Polynesia have helped shape the cultural fabric of the United States in profound and lasting ways.

Whether you're looking to learn more or simply enjoy powerful stories and fresh perspectives, the library is a great place to start. We've highlighted a few fiction and nonfiction books for all ages that reflect the diverse experiences and voices of Asian Pacific Americans:

Children

The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi Sky High: The True Story of Maggie Gee by Marissa Moss Surfer of the Century: The Life of Duke Kahanamoku by Ellie Crowe and Richard Waldrep Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhhà Lai

Young Adult

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park American Born Chinese by Luen Yang Gene The Tiger at Midnight by Swati Teerdhala For A Muse of Fire by Heidi Heilig

<u>Adult</u>

The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan
Ikigai: The Japanese Secret to a Long and Happy
Life by Hector Garcia
The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See

These are just a few of the many incredible titles you'll find on our shelves. Visit your local library branch or browse the catalog online at www.library.washco.utah.gov to explore even more stories that celebrate the vibrant diversity of Asian Pacific American heritage.

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Tired of endless scrolling while your popcorn goes cold? Skip the streaming shuffle and check out our brand-new lineup of DVDs, now available at the library! We've got Dogman for the kids (or the kids-at-heart), the epic new Mufasa: The Lion King for your next movie night, and hit TV series like Lioness for those who crave some edge-of-your-seat action. Whether you're in the mood for animated adventures or high-stakes drama, we've got something roaringly good for everyone! Check out a few of our new offerings:

MOVIES

- Dogman
- Mufasa, The Lion King
- Sonic the Hedgehog 3
- Bonhoffer: Pastor, Spy, Assasin
- Heart Eyes
- Get Away
- Valient One

TELEVISION

- Lioness Season 2
- Superman and Lois-Season 4
- Timestalker
- Quantum Leap Season 2
- Abbott Elementary -Season 3

And here's the best part—these DVDs are *totally free* with your library card! That means more money in your wallet for Mother's Day surprises, iced lattes, or that glittery llama mug you didn't know you needed. Come browse the collection, stock up on stories, and let your couch be the VIP theater it was always meant to be.



As we recognize May as Mental Health Awareness Month, it's a perfect time to pause, reflect, and care for our emotional and mental well-being. Whether you're seeking inspiration, coping strategies, or simply a sense of connection, the library is here to

support you. Our shelves—and digital collections—are filled with resources that can help. Thought-provoking titles like *Braving the Wilderness* by Brené Brown, *The Untroubled Mind* by Herbert Hall, *Feel Better Fast and Make It Last* by Dr. Daniel Amen, and *Hack Your Anxiety* by Dr. Alicia Clark offer insights into resilience, brain health, and emotional balance.

In addition to books, audiobooks, and eBooks, don't miss our electronic resources page, which is packed with databases full of expert information on mental health, wellness, and self-care. These trusted tools are available 24/7 and free with your library card. Taking care of your mind is just as important as taking care of your body—and your library is here to help you every step of the way.

New York Times Best Sellers -Hardcover Fiction and Nonfiction

FICTION:

- 1. Great Big Beautiful Life by Emily Henry
- 2. The Perfect Divorce by Jeneva Rose
- 3. Strangers in Time by David Baldacci
- 4. Say You'll Remember Me by Abby Jiminez
- 5. Onyx Storm by Rebecca Yarros
- 6. Iron Flame by Rebecca Yarros
- 7. Broken Country by Clare Leslie Hall
- 8. The Wedding People by Alison Espach
- 9. The Women by Kristin Hannah 10. James
- by Percival Everett

NONFICTION:

- 1. Matriarch by Tina Knowels with Kevin Carr O'Leary
- 2. Abundance by Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson
- 3. Everything is Tuberculosis by John Green
- 4. Hope by Pope Francis with Carlo Musso
- 5. The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt
- 6. Notes to John by Joan Didion
- 7. Who is Government by Michael Lewis
- 8. On Democracies and Death Cults by Douglas Murray
- 9. The Serviceberry by Robin Wall Kimmerer 10. Fahrenheit-182 by Mark Hoppus with Dan Ozzi

Employee Spotlight

I am pleased to present Brent Larson as the employee spotlight for April.

Brent is the Landscaping and Grounds Associate at the New Harmony Branch. Brent has been working in New Harmony for three years as an employee and he worked for a time as a volunteer



prior to his hire. Brent is pleasant, as well as reliable and is an integral part of our library.

He works diligently to keep the weeds pulled in the summer and the snow cleared in the winter. We have received comments from patrons on how nice the outside looks since he has taken over the care of our grounds.

He shovels and moves rocks as needed and does any task that is asked of him. Prior to his work at the library, Brent was an air traffic controller for many years both in Cedar City and then in Arizona. In his off hours, his favorite pastimes involve his family and/or a golf club. He loves the outdoors and also enjoys hiking and fishing. Brent has been a great addition to our branch and we appreciate all he does to keep the library running and beautiful for our patrons.

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, May 5 - LEGO Club Plus 5:00 pm
Tuesday, May 6 - Mother's Day Craft
Wednesday, May 7 - Anime Club 4:45 pm
Wednesday, May 7 & 21 - Teens: Learn to Draw Anime 5:00 pm
Monday, May 19 - Adult Program - Spring Trivia 5:30
Thursday, May 22 - Books n' Bites Book Club 5:00 pm
Saturday, May 24 - Afternoon Movie Matinee 1:30 pm
Tuesday, May 27 - Summer Reading Kick-Off 11:00 am

Hurricane Branch

Mondays - Thursdays - 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
Thursday, May 1 - Science Club 4:00 pm
Friday, May 2 - Readers' Circle Book Club 3:00 pm
Saturday, May 3 - Free Comic Book Day - All Day
Thursday, May 8 & 22 - LEGO Club 4:00 pm
Tuesday, May 13 - Arts & Crafts Club 4:00 pm
Wednesday, May 14 & 25 - Crochet Club 3:30 pm
Thursday, May-Reading with Molly 4:00 pm
Tuesday, May 20 - Jr. Dungeons & Dragons A 4:00 pm
Wednesday, May 21 - Jr. Dungeons & Dragons B 4:00 pm
Tuesday, May 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, May 16 - Novel Ideas Book Club 1:00 pm

St. George Branch

Mondays- Afternoon Story Time 1:00 pm
Mondays - English/Spanish Story Time 3:00 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
Thursday, May 1 - Book Bingo Adult Program 6:00 pm
Tuesday, May 6 & 20- Science Club for Kids 4:30 pm
Monday, May 5- P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm
Wednesday, May 7,16, & 21 - Genealogy Workshop 3:00 pm
Tuesday, May 13 - Art Club for Kids 4:30 pm
Tuesday, May 13 - Page Turners Book Club 2:30 pm
Thursday, May 15 - Teen Night 5:00 pm
Tuesday, May 27 - Block Busters 6:00 pm

Library Programs and Events

Santa Clara Branch

Tuesdays - Spanish Story Time 10:30 am
Wednesdays - Preschool Story Time 10:30 & 11:30 am
Wednesdays - Teens After School 3:00 pm
Thursdays - Toddler Time 10:30 & 11:30 am
Thursdays - Chess Club 4:00 pm
Saturdays - Tai Chi 10:30 am
Saturday, May 3 - Curious Minds Book Club 1:00 pm
Monday, May 12 - LEGO Club 4:00 pm
Tuesday, May 13 - Chapter One Book Club 3:30 pm
Thursday, May 15 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm
Friday, May 16-Root Beer Float Book Club 3:00 pm
Tuesday, May 20 - Adult Paint Night 4:00 pm
Saturday, May 24 - Family Movie Day 1:00 pm
Tuesday, May 27 - Adult Paint Night 4:00 pm

Springdale Branch

Wednesdays - Story Time 10:30 am Wednesday, May 14 - Book Club 11:30 am Thursday, May 8 - Teen/'Tween D&D 5:00 pm Wednesday, May 28 - 'Tween Book Club 4:00 pm Thursday, May 22 - Adult Craft Night 5:00 pm

Washington Branch

Tuesdays - Story Time 10:00 & 11:00 am
Wednesdays - Fridays - Story Time 10:30 am
Wednesdays - Teen Activities 4:00 pm
Thursday, May 1 - P.A.W.S. for Tales 4:00 pm
Monday, May 5 - Adult Cinco de Mayo Fiesta 4:00 pm
Wednesday, May 7 - Teen Planning Meeting 4:00 pm
Thursday, May 8 & 22 - Coding Club for Kids 4:00 pm
Wednesday, May 14 - Teen Event 4:00 pm
Thursday, May 15 - Book Ends Book Club 4:30 pm
Tuesday, May 20 - Adult Tech Time 4:00 pm
Wednesday, May 21 - Teen Event: 4:00 pm
Tuesday, May 27 - Arts & Crafts Club 2:00 pm
Wednesday, May 28 - Teen Event: 4:00 pm
Wednesday, May 30 - Teen Event: 4:00 pm



The Library System will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 26th.

