

# Happy New Year from the Collinsville Library!

By Devin Evans

**Collinsville Library Manager**

As the year comes to a close, we reflect on the many stories, connections, and discoveries shared within our library community. Whether you're curling up with a good book, exploring our digital resources, or participating in one of our events, we're honored to be part of your journey.

This holiday season, we encourage you to visit us for cozy reads, craft ideas, and activities for the whole family. Let's celebrate the magic of learning, sharing, and giving together.

Thank you for making Collinsville Library a place where community thrives. Wishing you and your loved ones a season filled with joy, peace, and inspiration.

## COLLINSVILLE LIBRARY'S TOP BOOKS OF THE YEAR

Each year the Tulsa City-County library sees thousands of books, movies, and digital titles borrowed by our community, reflecting diverse tastes and interests. From bestselling novels to timeless classics, these popular picks showcase what captivated readers the most. Here is a look at the most checked-out titles from the Collinsville Library this year, offering a glimpse into the stories and ideas that sparked curiosity, inspired conversation and brought joy to our patrons. You can check out these titles or explore new books. Just grab a computer or digital device, go to [www.tulsalibrary.org](http://www.tulsalibrary.org) and start searching the library catalog for the titles listed below

**\*THE WOMEN**, by Kristin Hannah  
When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances "Frankie" McGrath hears these unexpected words, it is a revelation. Raised on idyllic Coronado Island and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing, being a good girl. But in 1965 the world is changing, and she suddenly imagines a different choice for her life. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she impulsively joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path. As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is overwhelmed by the chaos and destruction of war, as well as the unexpected trauma of coming home to a changed and politically divided America.

**\*EVERYONE IN MY FAMILY HAS KILLED SOMEONE**, by Benjamin Stevenson

Everyone in my family has killed someone. Some of us, the high achievers, have killed more than once. I'm not trying to be dramatic, but it is the truth. Some of

us are good, others are bad, and some just unfortunate.

I'm Ernest Cunningham. Call me Ern or Ernie.

I wish I'd killed whoever decided our family reunion should be at a ski resort, but it's a little more complicated than that. Have I killed someone? Yes. I have. Who was it? Let's get started. **EVERYONE IN MY FAMILY HAS KILLED SOMEONE**. My brother. My stepsister. My wife. My father. My mother. My sister-in-law. My uncle. My stepfather. My aunt. Me.

**\*THE WISHING GAME**, by Meg Shaffer  
A retired bestselling author hosts a one-of-a-kind competition, with high risks and high rewards giving the winner a chance to change lives. Lucy Hart has come a long way since feeling the cold neglect of her parents, whose attention always centered around her chronically ill sister's needs. Now a twenty-six-year-old teacher's aide, Lucy is able to share her love of books with bright, young students, and one in particular, a seven-year-old orphan named Christopher, has her yearning for a family of her own. The Clock Island books were Lucy's passion and refuge as a child, and now she shares them with Christopher, who's become as big of a fan as she ever was. No matter how badly Lucy wants him in her life, even the idea of adopting him seems out of reach without proper funds and stability. Then a blue envelope arrives at her school, inviting Lucy to compete for the one and only copy of Jack Masterson's final novel in the iconic Clock Island series. No one has seen or heard from Jack Masterson in years, but now four diehard Clock Island fans have received the invitation of a lifetime to stay on his private island and compete for the final installment, and unpublished manuscript, of the well-loved series. For Lucy, a chance to read the last-ever Clock Island book is a prize worth playing for, but the possibility of winning and securing a better future for her and Christopher means everything. But first, she must contend with opportunists, cheaters, and, perhaps most distressingly, Jack's illustrator and companion on the island, Hugo Reese, whom Lucy has admired since first reading the books as a girl. All the while, the master of ceremonies, the prolific author himself, has his own secrets to keep-and a larger plan in the works that will change everything for all of them.



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**\*KILLERS OF A VERTAIN AGE**, by Deanna Raybourn

Older women often feel invisible, but sometimes that's their secret weapon. They've spent their lives as the deadliest assassins in a clandestine international organization, but now that they're sixty years old, four women friends can't just retire - it's kill or be killed in this action-packed thriller by New York Times bestselling and Edgar Award-nominated author Deanna Raybourn. Billie, Mary Alice, Helen, and Natalie have worked for the Museum, an elite network of assassins, for forty years. Now their talents are considered old-school, and no one appreciates what they have to offer in an age that relies more on technology than people skills. When the foursome is sent on an all-expenses paid vacation to mark their retirement, they are targeted by one of their own. Only the Board, the top-level members of the Museum, can order the termination of field agents, and the women realize they've been marked for death. Now to get out alive they have to turn against their own organization, relying on experience and each other to get the job done, knowing that working together is the secret to their survival. They're about to teach the Board what it really means to be a woman-and a killer-of a certain age.

**\* THE SPY COAST**, by Tess Gerritsen  
Former spy Maggie Bird came to the seaside village of Purity, Maine, eager to put the past behind her after a mission went tragically wrong. These days, she's living quietly on her chicken farm, still wary of blowback from the events that forced her early retirement. But when a body turns up in Maggie's driveway, she knows it's a message from former foes who haven't forgotten her. Maggie turns to her local circle of old friends--all retirees from the CIA--to help uncover the truth about who is trying to kill her, and why. This "Martini Club" of former spies may be retired, but they still have a few useful skills that they're eager to use again, if only to spice up their rather sedate new lives. Complicating their efforts is Purity's acting police chief, Jo Thibodeau. More accustomed to dealing with rowdy tourists than homicide, Jo is puzzled by Maggie's reluctance to share information--and by her odd circle of friends, who seem to be a step ahead of her at every turn. As Jo's investigation collides with the Martini Club's maneuvers, Maggie's hunt for answers will force her to revisit a clandestine career that spanned the globe, from Bangkok to Istanbul, from London to Malta. The ghosts of her past

have returned, but with the help of her friends--and the reluctant Jo Thibodeau--Maggie might just be able to save the life she's built

## CHECK IT OUT!: UPCOMING EVENTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

At Tulsa City-County Library, there is always something exciting happening for everyone in our community! From storytimes for little ones to engaging workshops for adults, our events are designed to inspire, educate, and entertain. Whether you are looking to explore a new hobby, connect with others, or simply have some fun, our calendar is packed with opportunities for all ages and interests. Discover what is happening this month and join us in making the library your go-to destination for learning and connection! Learn more about these events and more at [tulsalibrary.org/events](http://tulsalibrary.org/events).

### \* AFTER SCHOOL ART: NEW YEAR VISION BOARDS

Tuesday, January 7th 5:00pm-6pm,  
Collinsville Library

Visualize your goals, dreams and aspirations for the new year with a vision board creation. We will have all the supplies and guidance you need to create your personalized board. For teens and tweens.

### \* DOLLY PARTON'S BIRTHDAY STORYTIME

Wednesday, January 8th 10:30am-11:30am, Collinsville Library

Celebrate the Imagination Library and Dolly Parton's birthday with songs, stories and party favors! The queen of country music (and early literacy advocate!) turns 79 this year. Join us as we celebrate Dolly's birthday with a Dolly-themed storytime, crafts and party favors.

### \* PAWS FOR READING

Wednesday, January 8th 4:00pm-5:00pm,  
Collinsville Library

Registered therapy dogs are excellent listeners. Elementary schoolers are invited to read their favorite books to a furry, four-pawed friend. Registration is required. Each reader will receive a free book provided by the Tulsa Library Trust and the Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries.

### \* ALL THUMBS KNITTERS

Wednesdays at 12:30pm, Collinsville Library

Join our knitting group for a relaxing time of creativity and conversation! Whether you're a seasoned knitter or just picking up the needles, all skill levels are welcome. Bring your current project or start something new. Supplies are not provided, but camaraderie is! For adults.