

er on the 10th, and really grew in strength on the 11th. Clouds increased during the night of the 10th, with snow starting around 5 a.m. on the 11th. This storm slowed down and continued to strengthen and pull in moisture. The heaviest snow fell from the evening of the 11th through the morning of the 12th. During the two-day period, 10-15 inches of snow accumulated across the region. Temperatures were also held to well below normal levels during the storm, with highs only reaching the mid 20s. Morning lows dipped to the single digits above and below zero on the morning of the 11th as well, giving us a good early taste of wintry conditions.

After this storm, we had another few days of quiet and dry conditions move in. Highs jumped back to a little above normal from the 14th through the 16th, with low 50s each afternoon. This quiet period was interrupted by a shallow, cold air mass from the 17th through the 18th.

This resulted in low clouds and fog from the 17th to the morning of the 18th. And because the cool air mass was very shallow, there wasn't enough depth of cold air in the atmosphere to produce snowfall. Instead we received the worst of all conditions, with freezing drizzle and flurries. This produced a coating of ice for much of the area, making for very slippery conditions.

Once this air mass retreated on the 8th, quiet conditions returned. We were greeted with sunshine and mild weather over the next few days through Thanksgiving. High temperatures returned to the 50s from

the 20th through the 22nd, providing for some great travel weather and outdoor activities. Unfortunately, this didn't last through the holiday weekend, with return travel nearly impossible at times during the Thanksgiving weekend as a series of storms moved through the region from the 23rd through the 25th. These storms first produced heavy, wind-driven snow in the mountains, closing Interstate 70 for a time in Summit County. Because this initial surge of moisture was from the west, this mainly effected the mountains and left us windy and dry. This changed, however, on the afternoon of the 24th as a strong cold front rushed through around 2:30 p.m. Light and blowing snow developed behind the front for a few hours later that afternoon. Conditions briefly quieted down that evening as we waited for the heart of the storm to move out of Wyoming and into eastern Colorado. This happened starting around 9 p.m., with a stronger, second push of cold air and moisture. Snow and wind combined that evening to produce blizzard conditions until about 3 the next morning. This storm produced another 2-4 inches of wind-driven snow but moved out quickly leaving behind lots of sunshine to end the weekend.

The last week of the month was generally dry and seasonal. Highs reached into the upper 40s and low 50s from the 27th through the 29th. One last cold front moved through late on the 29th and knocked temperatures back to below normal levels on the last day of the month.

A look ahead

The month of December can be a cold one around the region, when daytime highs often stay below freezing and overnight lows can drop well below zero. The month is generally dry however, with several light, fluffy snowfalls. Gusty winds are also a common nuisance during the month. A white Christmas is fairly common for the area, with either snow on the ground or snowfall on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Let's hope the pattern shifts from the dry, mild conditions we saw during fall, and we start getting some much-needed moisture.

November 2018 weather statistics

Average High	43.5° (-5.1°)
100-year return frequency value	max 55.5° min 38.5°
Average Low	19.2° (-1.1°)
100-year return frequency value	max 27.5° min 14.1°
Monthly Precipitation	.89" (+0.20")
100-year return frequency value	max 3.80" min 0.16"
Monthly Snowfall	19.3" (+8.5")
Highest Temperature	57° on the 2nd
Lowest Temperature	2° on the 12th
Season to Date Snow	29.6" (+7.8")
(the snow season is from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30)	
Season to Date Precip.	2.53" (+0.11")
(the precip season is from Oct 1. to Sept. 30)	
Heating Degree Days	1006 (+140)
Cooling Degree Days	0 (0)

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Between the Covers at Covered Treasures Bookstore

The Holiday Magic of Books

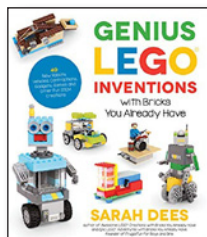
By the staff at Covered Treasures

*"Words are our most inexhaustible source of magic."
—J.K. Rowling*

The holidays are bursting with exciting new books that make great gifts for the young people in your life.

Genius Lego Inventions with Bricks You Already Have: 40+ New Robots, Vehicles, Contraptions, Gadgets, Games, and Other Fun STEM Creations
By Sarah Dees (Page Street Publishing) \$19.99

Use science and engineering to transform your bin of Lego bricks into amazing movable toys, machines, and gadgets. Best-selling author Sarah Dees is back with an all-new collection of projects featuring ingenious designs and simple scientific principles that real engineers use every day. There are step-by-step instructions and photographs.



Red Stocking Society

By Ace Passmore (Changing Lives Press) \$16.95

This fast-paced Christmas adventure revives the big-hearted legacy of St. Nicholas. Preteen Bub Olney is disillusioned over Santa and upset that his parents can't afford a coveted bike to put under the tree. Determined to own it, Bub lands a job at mysterious RSS, Inc., where eccentric workers bustle about on a secret mission called the S-Game. Bub is charged to perform three good deeds before the bike is sold at auction. While playing the S-Game through harrowing twists and turns, can Bub overcome his self-centered nature to reignite his family's Santa spirit? And if so, might

he finally learn the identity of S1, the real Santa? Entertaining and inspiring for ages 9-90, this book also serves as a Santa Manual for grown-ups who face grueling questions from doubters. You'll believe again!

Atlas Obscura Explorer's Guide for the World's Most Adventurous Kid

By Dylan Thomas and Rosemary Mosco (Workman Publishing) \$19.95

The team behind the best-selling *Atlas Obscura* presents a kid's illustrated guide to 100 of the world's most mesmerizing and mysterious wonders, both natural and manmade, in 47 countries and on every continent on Earth. Travel the world through common points of interest, from sacred skeletons (Trunyan Tree cemetery in Indonesia leads you to India's Skeleton Lake, for example) to wild waterfalls (while in Zambia visit the Devil's Swimming Pool—and then move on to Antarctica's Blood Falls) to ice caves to bioluminescence.

An Anthology of Intriguing Animals

By DK (DK Publishing) \$19.99

This animal encyclopedia with a twist showcases more than 100 animals in close-up detail. Arranged from largest to smallest, the wildlife of the world is revealed with stunning photography and illustrations. The storybook descriptions will delight children and let them discover amazing animal facts, such as why the slow-motion sloth is so sluggish, and how the plodding pangolin protects itself from predators, as well as some of the stories and myths surrounding their favorite beasts. The index is packed with reference information, including the size and location of each species, and a tree of life shows how the animal groups are connected.

Bridge of Clay

By Markus Zusak (Alfred A. Knopf), \$26

From the author who gave us *The Book Thief* comes this breathtaking story of five brothers who bring each other up in a world run by their own rules. As the Dunbar boys love and fight and learn to reckon with the adult world, they discover the moving secret behind their father's disappearance. At the center of the Dunbar family is Clay, a boy who will build a bridge—for his family, for his past, for greatness, for his sins, for a miracle.

Monstrous Devices

By Damien Love (Viking Books) \$17.99

On a winter's day in a British town, 12-year-old Alex receives a package in the mail: an old tin robot from his grandfather. "This one is special," says the enclosed note, and when strange events start occurring around him, Alex suspects this small toy is more than special; it might be deadly. Alex and his grandfather flee across snowy Europe, unraveling the riddle of the little robot while trying to outwit relentless assassins of the human and mechanical kind.

"The book to read is not the one that thinks for you but the one which makes you think." —Harper Lee

We are loving our new, completely renovated store. Stop in to see it for yourself and to say hello. You just might stumble upon a great read or game for yourself or for a special gift.

Until next month (and next year!), happy reading.
The staff at Covered Treasures can be reached at books@ocn.me

December Library Events

Enjoy some seasonal crafts and conversation at the library

By Harriet Halbig

The Monument Library will offer some gingerbread-themed entertainment and last-minute gift ideas during December.

Regularly occurring discussion groups and story times will continue through the holidays.

Children's and family programs

Story Time is offered every **Tuesday** at 10:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. (with the exception of Christmas Day), *Toddler Time* is on **Thursdays** at 9:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., *Paws to Read* is on **Mondays and Wednesdays** from 4 to 5 p.m., and there is a brief *Book Break* on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** from 10:30 to 10:50 a.m. All are welcome to these gatherings—bring the visiting grandchildren!

On Saturday, **Dec. 8**, the Palmer Ridge Robotics Team will do a demonstration from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Also on **Dec. 8**, there will be a gingerbread-themed party from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. We'll make gingerbread crafts, eat gingerbread cookies, and read gingerbread stories.

Coloring for Everyone will be on Friday, **Dec. 14**, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Join friends and family to color themed coloring sheets. Colored pencils, markers, and gel pens are provided. Come and stay as long as you like!

LEGO Build will be on Saturday, **Dec. 15**, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. All ages are welcome to come and create.

Teen events

See above for descriptions of *LEGO Build* and *Color-*

ing for Everyone.

Free math tutoring is available every **Monday** from 3:30 to 7 p.m. at the library. Experienced adult tutors are on hand to offer help at all levels. *AfterMath* follows the D-38 calendar and will not be available on Dec. 24 and 31 when the library is closed. It is also canceled if the schools are closed due to weather.

Come to the study room on **Wednesdays** from 3 to 5 p.m. for an all-ages knitting group. Practice materials are supplied, but bring your own if you'd like.

The *Monument Teen Creative Writing Group* will meet in the study room on Tuesday, **Dec. 4**, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. This group is for ages 12 to 18. Meet fellow writers, share ideas, and enjoy tasty snacks.

The *Teen Arts and Crafts* program for December is