

# December

## What's new at the library

### Reading Challenge: The Big Winter Read

Enter our winter reading challenge to keep you busy and cozy during those long winter evenings! The Big Winter Read will run from December 19-January 23 and is open to all ages.

To participate, pick up a winter reading bingo sheet at the library starting Friday, December 19. For each bingo, you get one raffle ticket to enter into our grand prize raffle! Kids ages 0-12 will also receive a special prize for the first bingo they get.



# WE WILL BE CLOSED

Wednesday, December 24th  
Thursday, December 25th  
Wednesday, December 31st  
Thursday, January 1st

## drop boxes will be closed



### Gingerbread Jamboree Contest!

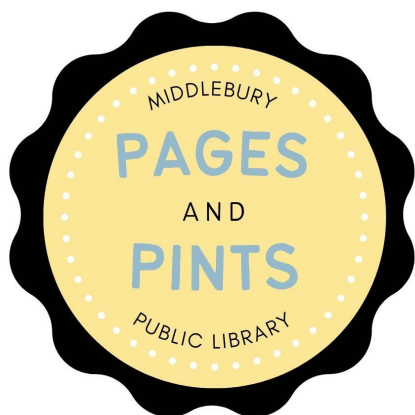
Enter your gingerbread house in this year's contest; drop off your creation December 1st and 2nd!

You can enter as a Student, an Adult or a Family/Group. See more contest details [here](#).

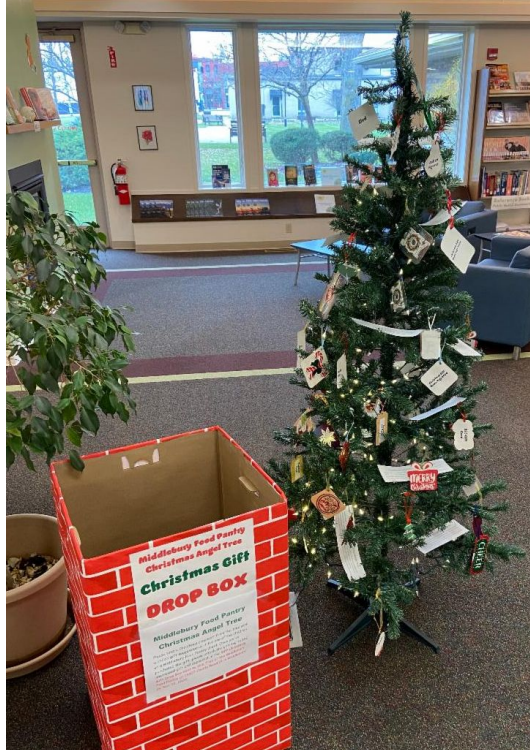
### Middlebury Food Pantry Angel Tree

We are once again hosting a giving tree for the Middlebury Food Pantry! Patrons can take an ornament from the tree and purchase the items on the tag to provide gifts for Middlebury families this holiday season. Gifts should be dropped off by December 12th, either in our gift box or directly to the food pantry!

Learn more about the pantry's work [here](#).



PAGES | PINTS | PEOPLE



## Overdue Notice Change

There will be a change in how the library notifies patrons of long overdue books! If your items have been overdue for longer than three weeks, you will no longer receive a paper billing notice. Instead, your account will simply be blocked until the items are returned or the replacement cost is paid (this blockage includes the use of Libby and Hoopla).

This change is to save on paper waste and staff time, and to avoid patrons receiving snail mail notices for items they have already returned! Please reach out with any questions.

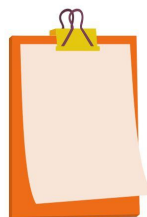
## Pages & Pints

Starting in the new year, our monthly choose-your-own-book club will meet at a new restaurant on a new day!

Mark your calendars for every fourth Tuesday at 5:30pm, and join us at Bronko's Restaurant.

Our first meeting will be on January 27th and the theme will be any book published in 2025.

# OVERDUE NOTICES



# December Special Programs

Check our [event calendar](#) for the complete schedule.



## Handmade Holiday Market

Saturday, December 6th, 9:30a-1:30p

The Handmade Holiday Market is back!

Pick up handmade gifts for your friends and family from local artisans. We'll have a holiday craft for kids, cookies and hot chocolate, and a visit from Santa Claus from 10-11am. Plus, come check out the Gingerbread Jamboree entries on display in the library lobby!

## Bedtime Storytime

Thursday, December 11th, 6p

Join us a few weeks before the holidays for hot cocoa, warm cookies, and sleepy, cozy stories for your little ones.

Pajamas are encouraged!



## Cookies & Canvas

Thursday, December 18th, 5:30p

Our guest artist Linda Pieri is back this month to lead a painting class, JUST for tweens and teens!

Anyone ages 11-17 may register for this program. We'll get festive painting a Christmas tree and snacking on some seasonal cookies and hot chocolate.

# Cookies & Canvas FOR TEENS



12/18/25 - 5:30p

## Staff Pick

### *The Year of Magical Thinking*

by Joan Didion

Recommended by Sharon

"You can't help but be impacted by this book. It's a personal journey through one of the hardest experiences in life, and it gives voice to the thoughts and feelings of grief. It's a book to expand your reality through someone else's lens. The hardest and most rewarding kind of book."

Several days before Christmas 2003, John Gregory Dunne and Joan Didion saw their only daughter, Quintana Roo, fall ill with septic shock. She was put into an induced coma and placed on life support. Days later, the Dunnes were sitting down to dinner after visiting their daughter in the hospital when John suffered a fatal heart attack. In that one moment, their partnership of forty years came to an end.

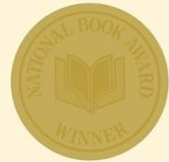
This powerful narrative is Didion's "attempt to make sense of the weeks and then months that cut loose any fixed idea I ever had about death,

NATIONAL BESTSELLER

"Stunning candor and piercing details . . .

An indelible portrait of loss and grief."

— Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*



J O A N  
D I D I O N  
T H E Y E A R O F  
M A G I C A L  
T H I N K I N G



about illness...about marriage and children and memory...about the shallowness of sanity, about life itself."

Find it in the library:  
Adult Non-Fiction - 813.54 DID



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[Event Calendar](#)

[Kid's Catalog](#)

[Online Catalog](#)

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