Message from Wolfner Director Robin Westphal

If you are like me, one of the things you love about living in the Midwest is the transition from season to season. In Missouri, those transitions can be pretty dramatic. Fall will already be in full force as you are reading this, and it will not be long before we are wearing stocking caps and longing for hot cocoa. We have another season that’s very important to the Wolfner team—Outreach Season. Our staff has almost completed another very successful Outreach Season, where members of the team, led by Public Services Director Lori Brown, attended or presented at conferences, senior fairs and even Senior Appreciation Day at the Missouri State Fair. While in reality, outreach occurs year round, the majority of opportunities occur during the spring, summer and fall.

In-person outreach has been on hiatus for two years, so this season’s opportunities have been well attended and impactful. Later in this newsletter, you will read about Wilma Chestnut and how a recent outreach opportunity brought this inspirational patron and author together with the narrator that read her biography in our studio. Outreach for Wolfner is critical, because it provides staff with one of the few opportunities to meet library patrons in person. It also gives staff face-to-face time with potential partners like Rehabilitation Services for the Blind (RSB) and Missouri Council of the Blind (MCB). This year our efforts have been focused on reaching the underserved. Our staff has had opportunities to talk with school librarians, staff of long-term care facilities and social workers.

Our goal with outreach is to reach as many potential new patrons as possible while educating medical professions and other agencies that can pass along applications and even certify potential new library patrons. Some of you may be Wolfner patrons because an outreach event in the past reached you or someone in your support circle.

Your Wolfner team is so much more than the Reader Advisors you speak with, the circulation staff that gets materials delivered to you and the talented volunteers and production team that create some of your favorite materials. They also
strive to get out and connect with you and those that can help promote this wonderful service. I know many of you do unofficial outreach for us by telling your friends and colleagues about Wolfner. For that I say, “Thank you for being part of our outreach team!”

**Braille-on-Demand**

The National Library Service is now offering Braille-on-Demand. This project allows active Wolfner patrons to request and receive one hard-copy braille title per month, which they can keep for personal use. The braille titles will be limited to books currently available on BARD (the NLS Braille and Audio Reading Download service). The form to request a braille-on-demand book can be found at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NLSbrailleondemand](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NLSbrailleondemand).

Patrons may complete the form themselves or call Wolfner where a Reader Advisor will be glad to complete the form for our patrons. 800-392-2614.

**Upcoming Book Club Titles**

Stay cozy this fall and join a book club from the comfort of your own home with Wolfner Book Club. Read any of the following and dial in for discussion, or use Zoom from a smart device:

**October**

- October 6 at 2 p.m. *The Loch* by Steve Alten (DB081330)
  Marine biologist Zachary Wallace once suffered a near-drowning experience in Loch Ness. With the memory haunting him, he and his father, who is on trial for murder, face the true legend of Loch Ness. 2005.

- October 13 at 2 p.m. *Phineas Gage* by John Fleischman (DB054774)
  This book tells the story of the infamous railroad construction worker who survived a hole in the head and became the subject of intense brain study. 2022.
• October 20 at 2 p.m. Andromeda Strain by Michael Crichton (DB037973)
  This book documents the efforts of a team of scientists investigating the
  outbreak of a deadly extraterrestrial microorganism in New Mexico. 1969.

• October 27 at 2 p.m. Broadcast Hysteria: Orson Welles’s War of the Worlds
  and the Art of Fake News by A. Brad Schwartz (DB082063)
  This book boldly retells the story of Welles’s famed radio play and its impact. Did
  it really spawn a “wave of mass hysteria,” as The New York Times reported? 2015.

November
• November 3 at 2 p.m. The Firekeeper’s Daughter by Angeline Boulley
  (DB102762)
  A groundbreaking young adult thriller about a Native American teen who must
  root out the corruption in her community. 2021.

• November 10 at 2 p.m. Sisters in Arms by Kaia Alderson (DB104718)
  A historical fiction novel reveals the untold, true story of the Six Triple Eight, the
  only all-Black battalion of the Women’s Army Corps, who made the dangerous
  voyage to Europe to ensure that American servicemen received word from their
  loved ones during World War II. 2021.

• November 17 at 2 p.m. Amish Fairytales by Sarah Price (DB099328)
  A retelling of classic fairy tales, set in Amish communities. Includes Beauty and
  the Beast, Cinderella and Snow White. 2018.

December
• December 8 at 2 p.m. Channel Kindness by various authors (DB100867)
  Channel Kindness is a collection of fifty-one stories of kindness, bravery, and
  resilience from young people all over the world. 2020.

• December 15 at 2 p.m. A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens (DB071821)
  Old miser Ebenezer Scrooge learns the true meaning of Christmas when three
  ghostly visitors review his past and foretell his future. 1843.

To join any meeting from a computer click on the following link:
https://zoom.us/j/96471504467

- OR -
To join by phone:
1. Dial: 312-626-6799
2. Enter the following meeting ID when prompted: 964 7150 4467

- OR -
Click on the following link from a mobile device: +13126266799,,96471504467# US
2023 Adult Winter Reading Program Announced

We want to invite you to beat the blues this coming winter by joining us for a round of Library Bingo! Everyone participating will be given a card with different ideas for choosing books. Pick one idea from each column, so that you have a B, I, N, G, and O. No straight lines or patterns needed—this isn’t “regular” Bingo.

Next, pick out a book to match each of the five choices on your Bingo card. If you need help, a Reader Advisor can help you find whatever you are looking for. We’ll send out the five books you’ve chosen, so get ready to read!

As always, anyone who wants to read above and beyond the five-book minimum is encouraged to do so.

The Winter Reading challenge will run January 1 through February 28, 2023, and all books must be logged by March 10 to count for the grand prize drawing. Please plan ahead and start making your book requests in December, as the holiday rush is always a challenging time for the U.S. Postal Service.

Contact the Wolfner Library for a large-print or braille copy of the Bingo card if you are interested in participating. Cards will be made available beginning October 1.

New from the Wolfner Recording Studio

All books produced by the Wolfner Recording Studios are the result of many hours of service by volunteers who go through a rigorous audition process to record, monitor and review each title. These Missouri-centric titles are uploaded to BARD for the enjoyment of Wolfner patrons and readers across the country.

New Adult Books

• *Christmas at Promise Lodge* by Charlotte Hubbard *(DBC19415)*
  Narrated by Carolyn Patterson. After an accident threatens to change his life forever, Preacher Amos Troyer, wondering if the Lord has sent him a message, must call upon faith, hope and charity to find the right path.
  Reading time 9 hours, 11 minutes.

• *The First Beverly Hillbilly: The Untold Story of the Creator of Rural TV Comedy* by Ruth Henning *(DBC19447)*
  Narrated by Ann Kovar. Ruth Henning shares the story of her husband Paul’s rise from a scriptwriter on some of Kansas City’s earliest radio shows to the
genius behind America’s beloved rural TV sitcoms such as *The Beverly Hillbillies*, *Petticoat Junction* and *Green Acres*.
Reading time 9 hours, 12 minutes.

  Narrated by John Wegman. A veteran’s straightforward and honest memoir recounting his journey from a rural Midwestern town to the jungles of Vietnam.
  Reading time 9 hours, 2 minutes.
  (News coverage about the audiobook’s production may be found at https://fulton-sun.pressreader.com/article/281509344809595?fbclid=IwAR1LniV_qZ5GYMjmkr55g8Bn9pIAqFD1dnvnmnr0nz5Sxohv8zqnH5rcSMQs)

**New Young Adult Books**

- **Jude** by Kate Morgenroth (DBC16450)
  Narrated by Keith Krueger. After 15-year-old Jude watches his drug-dealer father get gunned down, he’s taken from his dangerous neighborhood to elite surroundings. But to save his own life, he can’t tell the police what he knows.
  Reading time 9 hours, 52 minutes.

- **Brendan Buckley’s Sixth-Grade Experiment** by Sundee T. Frazier (DBC19443)
  Narrated by Atticus Barnes. Brendan makes a new friend — a girl — at a geology club meeting, but he’s not so sure he can be friends with her at school without his guy friends giving him grief.
  Reading time 6 hours, 57 minutes.

**New Juvenile Books**

- **Not-So-Lucky Lefty** by Megan McDonald (DBC06404)
  Narrated by Lesley LePage. Mighty-righty Judy Moody is feeling left out on Left-Handers Day, which includes a trip to the pretzel factory. Judy is allowed to come along on one condition: she has to be left-handed the whole entire day.
  Reading time 20 minutes.

- **Five Little Monkeys Wash the Car** by Eileen Christelow (DBC24322)
  Narrated by Maggie Barnes. Five little monkeys wash the family car before trying to sell it, but that is only the beginning of their adventures with the old heap.
  Reading time 5 minutes.
The Power of the Human Spirit
As a teenager in St. Louis, Wilma Chestnut was violently blinded by three robbers whose intention was to keep her from identifying them. Now an accomplished author and inspirational speaker, Wilma is a true testament to the power of the human spirit.

At the Missouri State Fair, Wilma met with Wolfner’s Director of Production and Special Projects Randy Wright, who informed her that the biography *The Wilma Chestnut Story* by Karl Evanzz can now be downloaded as a BARD audiobook (DBC19497).

After Wilma was photographed at the fair with a hard copy of her book, she was able to meet by telephone Wolfner volunteer Da’Mia Day, who narrated the audiobook. Needless to say, the conversation was heartfelt, filled with emotions, and led to a powerful face-to-face meeting at the recent Missouri Institute on Minority Aging conference.
Upcoming Holidays
Just a reminder to patrons, Wolfner Library will be closed for the following holidays:

- October 10 (Columbus Day)
- November 11 (Veterans Day)
- November 24 (Thanksgiving Day)
- December 26 (Christmas Day observed)
- January 2 (New Year’s Day observed)

Donations to Wolfner Library may be made to the Wolfner Trust Fund or The Friends of Wolfner Library.

Mail to:
Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library
PO Box 387
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Wolfner Staff Listing

Director
Robin Westphal, State Librarian

Public Services Team
Lori Brown, Director of Public Services
  • Kitty Engler, Reader Advisor
  • Brandon Kempf, Reader Advisor
  • Meghan McCormack, Reader Advisor
  • Kenna Tervo, Reader Advisor

Lisa Kincaid, Youth Specialist Librarian
Adult Services Librarian (vacant)

Circulation Team
Verhonda Winters, Director of Circulation
Stacy Jo Butler, Circulation Tech IV
Tim Emmel, Circulation Tech II
Emma Deuschle, Circulation
Cheryl Schreiman, Circulation
Justin Stauffer, Circulation

Production Team
Randy Wright, Director of Production and Special Projects
Chris Cowan, Tech III
Brandon Lammers, Tech IV