John R. Ashcroft, Secretary of State

Winter 2023

Greetings from Wolfner Director Robin Westphal

Every year about this time, we are inundated with quotes and slogans to guide us as we transition to a new year. "New Year, New You," "Out with the old, in with the new," or my personal favorite, "What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year." Your Wolfner Library staff will be bringing a great deal



to you in 2023 and we are confident that we will keep on the positive trajectory that we started in 2022.

2022 was a great year for Wolfner. We checked out over **700,000** items to our patrons, a new record for us! We also surpassed the **1,000** mark for books recorded locally and had our second recording studio up and running early in the year. Behind the scenes, we cleaned up our database of Wolfner patrons and personally made contact with many of you that had not been "active"

users. Duplication on Demand greatly improved how we get materials to you, our patrons, but it also meant that the workflow of Wolfner staff was forever altered as the number of single physical cartridges was decreased dramatically. Every member of the circulation team, who prepares and sends out your audio cartridges, has been trained to do additional work to help out in other areas. Because of this, we have been able to fully staff the additional recording studio and stay caught up on the mountains of paperwork and administrative tasks that are necessary to run an agency of this size. Our Reader Advisors have been able to focus on their support of you, our patrons.

Our team became complete in 2022 with the addition of Jami Livingston, Adult Services Librarian, who started in December and was previously the library director at the Adair County Library in Kirksville. Jami brings with her an abundance of program experience, and I know she is looking forward to strengthening our relationship with the 160 public libraries in Missouri to promote Wolfner services and to recruit potential library users.

We know that 2023 should bring NLS' program of providing refreshable braille devices to our braille readers and we plan to have even bigger and better summer library programs this summer.



All of us at Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library look forward to serving you even better in 2023. Thank you for trusting us, relying on us and reaching out to us with suggestions, support and your stories.

Robin

2023 - Try Something New This New Year

The Wolfner Library team wishes each of you a happy new year and encourages you in 2023 to try something we offer that may be new to you. Our wide range of services includes three reading programs, Adult Winter, Adult Summer and Youth Summer, along with book clubs that meet by phone or online. Also available are Newsline, which allows local and national newspapers and more to be read to you, and Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD). You can also call a Reader Advisor and add a new author or genre to your reading list. Many of the Missouri-centric audiobooks that you might enjoy were produced in Wolfner's recording studios.

The Wolfner Library staff wants you to get involved or try something new this year. Reader Advisors are here to help you start something new or to continue your journey reading as a loyal Wolfner Library patron.

- Call a Reader Advisor at 800-392-2614.
- Join us on our Wolfner Talking Book and Library Facebook page (facebook.com/Wolfnerlibrary)
- Visit our website, <u>sos.mo.gov/wolfner/</u> for the new Talking Book Topics catalog, news, programs, and special events.

Welcome, Jami Livingston!



"Hello, my name is Jami Livingston and I am the new Adult Services Librarian at Wolfner Library. In my previous position, I was the Director of the Adair County Public Library in Kirksville, MO. I have worked in libraries my whole life and reading is my escape! I enjoy helping readers find the right story at the right time! Stephen King and Linda Castillo are my two absolute favorite authors! I am looking forward to visiting with patrons. My office number is 573-522-2768 and my email is jami.livingston@sos.mo.gov."

We all hope Jami will find her new position as Adult Services Librarian both challenging and rewarding!

Missouri State Library

Did you know you can get the latest National Library Service News sent to your email?

The National Library Service Patron Engagement section has an announce-only listserv that will send you information about programs, services, products and Zoom links for online events such as *The Many*

Faces of BARD and the Patron Corner. To sign up for the listserv, patrons should send their name and email address to <a href="https://www.ncsen.org/ncsen.o

Adult Winter Reading Program 2023

It's not too late to sign up and participate in our Adult Winter Reading Program. Join us for a round of Library Bingo and start off your new year with some fun! Participants



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 runs from January 1 through February 28, and all books must be logged by March 10 to be counted for the grand prize drawing. If you are planning to participate, register at https://wolfpac.beanstack.org/reader365 or call and ask a Reader Advisor for assistance.

A large-print or braille version of the Bingo card can be mailed to you upon request. The large-print card is also available on our website at (www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Wolfner/WinterBINGOcard.pdf)

Upcoming Book Club Titles



What better time of the year than winter to stay home and cozy with a great book! Read any of the following and dial in for discussion, or use Zoom from a smart device:

January

- January 5 at 2 p.m. *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig (**DB100906**)

 After she attempts suicide, Nora wakes up in a mysterious library. The shelves are full of books, each the story of another reality. One tells the story of life as it is, along with other books for the other lives that could have been lived. 2020.
- January 12 at 2 p.m. The Wilma Chestnut Story by Karl Evanzz (DBC19497) When two St. Louis police officers responding to a 911 call rescued teenager Wilma Chestnut from an apartment where she was babysitting, they found her bleeding from both eyes and unable to tell them what happened because she was in shock. An investigation found that Chestnut was blinded by one of three men who robbed her. The only problem was that she was unable to identify which one it was, just as he planned. It seemed that he had committed the perfect crime.
- January 19 at 2 p.m. *Brightly Burning* by Alexa Donne (DB091433)
 After a supervolcano renders Earth uninhabitable, humans live on massive ships that orbit the planet. As one orphaned teen searches for a better life and space-ship, she uncovers a government conspiracy. A reimagining of *Jane Eyre* (DB047868). 2018.
- January 26 at 2 p.m. White Fang by Jack London (DB051689)
 A wolf-dog, rescued from danger and tamed by a kind master, redeems his brute nature by defending his master's family against an escaped convict. 1906.

February

- February 2 at 2 p.m. It's Not All Downhill From Here by Terry McMillan (DB098947)
 - On the eve of her sixty-seventh birthday, Loretha Curry has a booming beauty-supply empire, a gaggle of lifelong friends, and a husband whose moves still surprise her. She certainly doesn't think her best days are behind her. But an unexpected loss turns her world upside down. 2020.
- February 9 at 2 p.m. Second Daughter by Mildred Pitts Walter (DB043000)
 Fictionalized account of slave Elizabeth Freeman, who in 1781 sued her owner
 for freedom under the Massachusetts Constitution and won. A fictional younger
 sister tells the story of the slaves' lives and their desire to be free. 1996.
- February 16 at 2 p.m. Rebel: Women Who Dare by Beverly Jenkins
 (DB095596)
 New Orleans, 1867: When thugs destroy the school she is setting up for educating freed slaves, Valinda Lacy needs help from Captain Drake LeVeq. Drake, an architect from an established local family with a deep interest in

rebuilding the city, is drawn to Valinda. Women Who Dare series, Book 1. 2019.

February 23 at 2 p.m. The Rest I Will Kill: William Tillman and the
Unforgettable Story of How a Free Black Man Refused to Become a Slave
by Brian McGinty (DB088856)
An account of how William Tillman, a free black man working as a ship cook and
steward in 1861, recaptured the schooner from the Confederate privateers who
had commandeered it and tried to enslave him. Some strong language and some
violence. 2016.

March

- March 2 at 2 p.m. Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro (DB059667)
 England, 1990s: Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy attend Hailsham, one of the better academies where human clones bred to be organ donors are sheltered from reality. Now thirty-one, Kathy has been a donor/caregiver for eleven years.

 As her first donation nears, Kathy appreciates her privileged upbringing. 2005.
- March 9 at 2 p.m. West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge (DB102687)
 As the Great Depression lingers, Americans long for wonder. They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic.
 During a twelve-day road trip, Woodrow Wilson Nickel drives a custom truck to deliver the giraffes to the San Diego Zoo. 2021.

- March 16 at 2 p.m. Judgment at Gallatin: The Trial of Frank James by Gerard S. Petrone (DBC24343) The State of Missouri vs. Frank James may not have been the trial of the 19th century, but it certainly ranks up there. After the killing of Jesse James in April 1882, the outlaw's older brother turned himself in to Missouri Governor Thomas Crittenden. Self-styled "amateur historian" Jerry Petrone re-creates the trial, from its carnival atmosphere outside of the makeshift courtroom to the eccentric characters inside in this well-researched, easy-to-read and enlightening look at the historical trial. Judgment at Gallatin is thorough historically and an all around excellent read, whether you believe justice was served or miscarried.
- March 23 at 2 p.m. Red Sparrow by Jason Matthews (DB077102)
 CIA operative Nathaniel Nash loses his Moscow post after narrowly escaping from a meeting with an important source. New Russian intelligence agent Dominika Egorova is assigned to seduce Nash and identify his contact. 2013.

April

- April 6 at 2 p.m. The Royal Art of Poison by Eleanor Herman (DB109011)
 The story of poison is the story of power. For centuries, royal families have feared the gut-roiling, vomit-inducing agony of a little something added to their food or wine by an enemy. In The Royal Art of Poison, Eleanor Herman combines her unique access to royal archives with cutting-edge forensic discoveries to tell the true story.
- April 13 at 2 p.m. *Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard (DB081314)
 Seventeen-year-old Mare Barrow's world is divided by blood—those with common red blood serve the silver-blooded elite, who are gifted with super-human abilities. Mare, a "Red", scrapes by until she publicly discovers she has a deadly ability of her own.
- April 20 at 2 p.m. *The Last Kingdom* by Bernard Cornwell (DB059910)
 Ninth-century Britain: Ten-year-old Uhtred is captured in battle by Danish chieftain Earl Ragnar. Uhtred's loyalties are torn between Ragnar and King Alfred of Wessex. Discovering his true allegiance, Uhtred leaves to claim his birthright and settle a blood feud.
- April 27 at 2 p.m. Highland Guard. Books 1 3 by Monica McCarty (DB080810)
 Books 1 3 feature romances between Scottish warriors and their ladies as
 they fight against the English. In The Chief (Book 1), swordsman chief Tor
 MacLeod is dedicated to his clan but wishes to avoid war.

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

New from the Wolfner Recording Studios



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

A Veiled Antiquity by Rett MacPherson (DBC06439)
 Narrated by Anne Rottmann

Torie O'Shea is having a killer of a day. Quiet Marie Dijon is found dead at the foot of her basement stairs. Did she fall? Was she pushed? All Torie knows is that Marie had a family tree with royal roots completely foreign to a folksy Middle America town like New Kassel, Missouri. As foreign as, say...murder. Adult. Some strong language.

Reading time 5 hours, 38 minutes.

 Judgement at Gallatin: The Trial of Frank James by Gerard S. Petrone (DBC24343)

Narrated by Loretta Broker

The State of Missouri vs. Frank James may not have been the trial of the 19th century, but it certainly ranks up there. After the killing of Jesse James in April 1882, the outlaw's older brother turned himself in to Missouri Governor Thomas Crittenden. Self-styled "amateur historian" Jerry Petrone re-creates the trial in this well-researched, easy-to-read and enlightening look at the historic trial. Adult. Some violence and some strong language.

Reading time 10 hours, 6 minutes.

The Lewis and Clark Trail by Archie Satterfield (DBC24340)
 Narrated by Carolyn Patterson

On orders of President Thomas Jefferson, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark led a group of men across some of North America's most magnificent scenery to find "the direct water communication from sea to sea". This book tells the story of that great adventure. Adult. Some descriptions of sex. Some violence.

Reading time 6 hours, 42 minutes.

New Young Adult Books

Wing Nut by MJ Auch (DBC16296)

Narrated by Tom Collier

When twelve-year-old Grady and his mother relocate yet again, they find work taking care of an elderly man who teaches Grady about cars, birds, and what it means to have a home. For grades 5-8.

Reading time 5 hours, 27 minutes.

Soda Fountain Blues by L. D. Whitaker (DBC24327)

Narrated by Shelley Swoyer

A charming coming-of-age story set in a more innocent time as two teenagers from dissimilar backgrounds share the summer of 1965 at Yellowstone National Park. Some descriptions of sex and strong language. For junior and senior high readers.

Reading time 7 hours, 38 minutes.

New Juvenile Books

Webster J. Duck by Martin Waddell (DBC24375)

Narrated by Bella Lyskowski

Webster J. Duck turns to several animals when he tries to find his mother. For preschool through 2nd grade.

Reading time 3 minutes.

Where Did Bunny Go? by Nancy Tafuri (DBC24377)

Narrated by Bella Lyskowski

Bird cannot find Bunny during a game of hide-and-seek and worries that Bunny has run away. For preschool through 2nd grade.

Reading time 3 minutes.

Missouri State Library

Wolfie's Mail and Make Kits

Starting in January, the Mail and Make program will be increasing from four projects a year to six. Grab some glue and scissors and watch the mail for new kits to be sent out every other month.

The Mail and Make program is open to youth and cognitively disabled adult patrons. Projects are designed for individuals who can function at an 8- to 13-year-old level of understanding. Each kit will include craft supplies and written instructions, including a web link to a narrated how-to video.



If you are interested in registering someone to receive these kits, please visit the Mail and Make page on our website at https://www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner/programming/wolfies-mail-and-makes, or by contacting Lisa Kincaid, our Youth Services Specialist.

January/February: Indoor Snowpal

March/April: Spring Carp Kite

May/June: Flapping Butterfly Toy

July/August: Statue of Liberty Torch & Crown

September/October: Weave a Spider Web

November/December: Nature Print Ornaments

Upcoming Holidays

Just a reminder to patrons that Wolfner Library will be closed on the following holidays:

Monday, January 16 (Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday)

Monday, February 13 (Lincoln's Birthday)

Monday, February 20 (Washington's Birthday)

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

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