



Greetings from Wolfner Director Robin Westphal



Thanks to all of you that completed the Wolfner Library Patron Survey. We always look forward to seeing what programs and services you most like and those that you'd like to see us start offering. You seem to really enjoy the Adult Winter Reading Program, but who doesn't like to cozy up with a good book when it's blustery outside?! Many of you expressed that you are interested in, or already use, NFB-Newsline and our large print book collection. Almost 50% of respondents reported that they would be interested in a program that we do not currently have but are planning to -- adult craft kits. We are in the planning stages of this program and hope by our next newsletter to have more information about what our first craft project will be and how you can participate.

The survey is also a good indicator of how well Wolfner staff are doing at meeting your needs when you call in. A whopping 98.9% of those completing the survey indicated that you feel staff is "helpful, courteous, and attentive to your needs." That's the highest satisfaction rate we've seen in at least eight years. There has definitely been a heavy focus on customer service training, and our expectations are very high in this area.

As part of Wolfner's ongoing commitment to customer service, we take great care in hiring staff to make sure that they exhibit the same pledge to serving our patrons as the rest of us. I'm very pleased to announce that we've hired another superstar Reader Advisor to assist you. Vanessa Lengyel, who you'll read more about later in this issue, is already showing that she loves her role on the Public Services team and has had some great conversations with some of you.

Thank you again for completing the survey, and enjoy the Fall 2023 edition of *The Wolfner News*.

Robin

Wolfner Welcomes New Reader Advisor Vanessa Lengyel



Wolfner Library has added a new Reader Advisor, Vanessa Lengyel, to our team. We'll let Vanessa introduce herself so you can get to know more about the voice you may hear when you call us...

BIO

"I'm originally from Southeast Missouri and grew up with the Mark Twain National Forest in my backyard. Since then, the years have included a growing family, plenty of travel, and living in Missouri, Illinois, and Washington."

WHY WOLFNER?

"When I was young I had a hearing impairment. This made learning to read difficult and frustrated my teachers. I was lucky enough to have a mom that regularly made use of the public library and brought book after book home, increasing my desire to read independently. This led me to explore serving at a school library. Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library is where I landed in this great adventure!"

WHAT HAS SURPRISED YOU MOST ABOUT WOLFNER?

"Definitely the great phone conversations I've had with patrons. It's always fun to meet a fellow booklover who shares a favorite author or wants to talk about a shared love for good coffee."

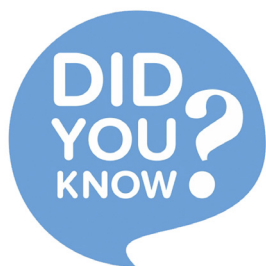
FIRST FAVORITE

"The first book I remember loving was "Doctor Zhivago" by Boris Pasternak. I was enamored with the Russian landscape and gritty characters.

HOBBIES

"Doing anything outdoors, trying new coffee shops, and, of course, reading!"

Vanessa, welcome to the Wolfner team!



Did you know that banks, the IRS, and legitimate businesses will never ask for your social security number, bank account information, or credit card information over the phone or in person? Millions of Americans fall victim to fraud each year. The top trending scams are romance scams, where criminals

pose as a romantic interest, criminals posing as technology support representatives, people claiming a relative has an urgent financial need, or sweepstakes scams when criminals claim you have won a lottery.

Avoid “Act Now” scenarios, and never let a salesperson pressure you into making an immediate investment decision. Scammers might also tell you to pay in a specific way, such as wiring money or making checks directly to them instead of the third-party entity. Also, watch for the words “No Risk” with investments, because all investments have a risk, even if a small risk.

If you feel a friend or loved one has been the victim of securities fraud, contact the **Vulnerable Citizen Services Hotline** at **1-855-653-7300** to request a complaint form. Contact your local authorities immediately if the matter does not involve securities or an investment account. Furthermore, never give personal information to anyone over the phone.

A friendly reminder from Wolfner Library because we care about you.



Thirty-three Wolfner adult patrons completed the *All Together Now Summer Reading Program*. We sent a pair of studio-quality headphones to each of our three grand prize winners. Thank you to the Friends of the Wolfner Library for funding the prizes. Readers that completed the program received an insulated drink mug as well. Fifty-six book reviews were submitted and 653 books were logged.



Congratulations to our Summer Reading Program GRAND PRIZE WINNERS!

Children’s Section

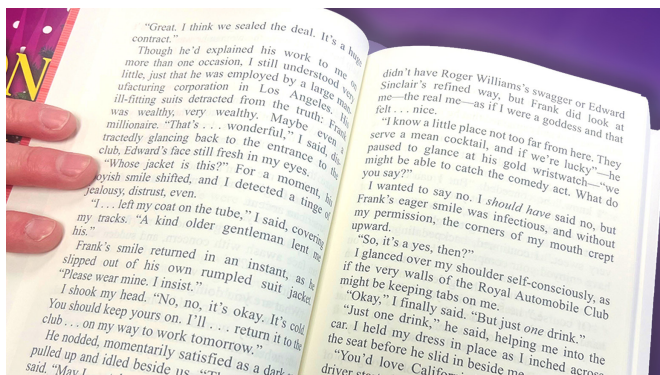
- Cyrina Leader

Adults

- Pam Baggot
- Ronald Lemons
- Kadija Kargbo

Each winner will receive a pair of studio-quality headphones & accessories.

We are still collecting cookbook recipes! We'll continue until we have a sufficient amount for our community cookbook.



Our large print collection is growing! We have had many donations of large print titles from public libraries donated to Wolfner, and have ordered some new titles for our library.

2024 Adult Winter Reading Program

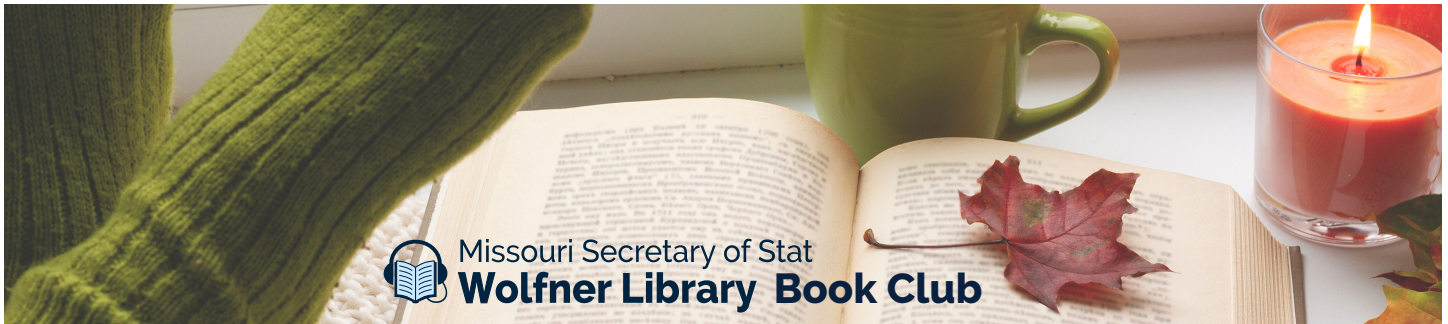
We are looking forward to the Adult Winter Reading Program in January and February. We will once again be playing BOOK BINGO! More details will be released as we get closer to January. Look for categories this year like "Read a cozy mystery" or "A book set outside of the U.S." Registration details will be released in December.



Talking Book Topics (TBT) Is Now Available on WolfPAC, the Wolfner Online Catalog

Here's some exciting news...you can now explore and order books from the latest **Talking Book Topics (TBT)** through our online catalog at <https://wolfpac.klas.com/>. Once you sign on to WolfPAC, choose the Browse button at the top of the page, and the first option will be *Talking Book Topics*. You can filter your search to narrow your results by genre, topic, or author and then choose the books you want to read by adding them to your basket. Call a Reader Advisor if you need help at 800-392-2614. Although **Talking Book Topics** continues to be available on the NLS website, you cannot order books to be sent to you from that website.

Upcoming Book Club Titles



Participate in Wolfner's weekly book club by dialing in every Thursday at 2 p.m., or by using Zoom from a smart device. Here's a list of books that will be featured from October through December 2023, followed by instructions on how to join in:

October 5 – ***Make Room, Make Room*** by Harry Harrison (**DB068208**)

- As Earth becomes overpopulated, New York City swells to a metropolis of thirty-five million people and food riots erupt. In the midst of demonstrations, detective Andrew Rusch hunts for mobster Mike O'Brien's killer. Basis for the 1973 movie "Soylent Green."

October 12 – ***The Utterly Uninteresting and Unadventurous Tales of Fred, the Vampire Accountant*** by Drew Hayes (**DB108470**)

- Some people are born boring. Some live boring. Some even die boring. Fred managed to do all three, and when he woke up as a vampire, he did so as a boring one.

October 19 – ***Carrie*** by Stephen King (**DB007910**)

- A high-school girl uses her secret powers of telekinesis, the ability to produce motion in objects by mind control, as a weapon to exact revenge on a New England town.

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October 26 – ***Witch Queens, Voodoo Spirits and Hoodoo Saints*** by Denise Alvarado (DB111034)

- A magical mystery tour of the extraordinary historical characters that have defined the unique spiritual landscape of New Orleans. There is a mysterious spiritual underbelly hiding in plain sight in New Orleans, and in this book Alvarado shows us where it is and who the characters are.

November 2 – ***Jarhead*** by Anthony Swofford (DB055726)

- A memoir by a former sniper describing the reactions of U.S. Marines to the difficulties of life and war during the Desert Storm operation in 1991. The author relates how he enlisted after high school and was sent at age 20 to Saudi Arabia to face combat. Violence and strong language.

November 9 – ***A Woman of No Importance*** by Sonia Purnell (DB095178)

- An account of the efforts of Virginia Hall, a Baltimore socialite and American spy who established spy networks throughout World War II France, ultimately escaping through the Pyrenees into Spain after her cover was blown. Written by the author of ***Clementine: The Life of Mrs. Winston Churchill*** (DB088505). Unrated. Commercial audiobook..

November 16 – ***The Red Badge of Courage*** by Stephen Crane (DB022405)

- A country boy enthusiastically enlists with the Union army during the Civil War. Wanting to prove himself a hero, but experiencing shock and fear on the battle front, he finally revives his courage and self-respect in a crucial war advance.

December 7 – ***Letters from Father Christmas*** by J.R.R. Tolkien (DB063808)

- A collection of Christmas letters penned by J.R.R. Tolkien, signed as Father Christmas, and sent to Tolkien's children from 1920-1943. Each recapped activities of the preceding year at the North Pole, including reindeer running amok and the North Polar Bear breaking the moon into four pieces

December 14 – ***High Heels and Holidays*** by Kasey Michaels (DB065254)

- Manhattan mystery writer Maggie Kelly prepares for her first Christmas with viscount Alex Blake, the fictional-come-to-life sleuth of her Regency-era novels. But when she receives a dead rat and threatening notes and a fellow author dies suspiciously, Maggie believes she may be a killer's next victim. Some strong language.

To join any meeting from a computer, use 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](tel:+13126266799,96471504467)

Suggested Holiday Reading 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.

(Additional production funding is provided by The Friends of the Wolfner Library.)

Halloween

Preschool-grade 2 - *The Berenstain Bears and the Haunted House* by Jan and Mike Berenstain **(DBC24462)** - Narrated by Griffin Lyskowski

Gracie the kitten has gone missing. Did she go inside the haunted house on top of Spook Hill? Brother and Sister gather up their courage to find out. They'd better beware! Reading time: 5 minutes

Grades 4-7 - *The Peculiar Incident on Shady Street* by Lindsay Currie **(DBC16294)** - Narrated by Mary Beth Broughton

When lights start flickering and temperatures suddenly drop, twelve-year-old Tessa Woodward, sensing her new house may be haunted, recruits some new friends to help her unravel the mystery of who or what is trying to communicate with her and why. Reading time: 6 hours, 2 minutes

Adult - *Haunted Missouri: A Ghostly Guide to the Show-Me State's Most Spirited Spots* by Jason Offutt **(DBC24338)** - Narrated by Theresa Sullivan

A serious but witty look at Missouri's place in the ghostly realm, this book brings together history, folklore, and just enough mystery to intrigue skeptics and delight believers. Some strong language. Reading time: 7 hours, 36 minutes

Veterans Day

Adult - *The Boys of Brookdale: Sixteen Amazing Stories from the Second World War Discovered in One Senior-Living Facility* by Joe Regenbogen (DBC19476) - Narrated by Vaughn Whiting

Brookdale Creve Coeur, a senior living facility in the suburbs of St. Louis, houses several World War II vets, many of whom have remarkable and inspiring war stories. The 16 veterans interviewed for this book include a B-24 pilot shot down over the Pacific, two veterans from the Battle of the Bulge, a WAVE, a prisoner of war, and a Holocaust survivor. Some violence. Reading time: 9 hours, 7 minutes

Adult - *Extreme Valor: Missouri's Medal of Honor Recipients* by Ross Malone (DBC19480) - Narrated by Loretta Broker

Short biographies of Missouri's Medal of Honor recipients documenting their heroics at home and abroad. Reading time: 7 hours, 48 minutes

Adult - *For a Time We Were Titans* by Tom Reed (DBC19484) - Narrated by Audie Cline

A detailed account of the role the Long Range Patrols played in the war in South Vietnam, in a division that had the largest area of operations of all the divisions—8,000 square miles. Some strong language and violence. Reading time: 7 hours, 41 minutes

Thanksgiving

Preschool-grade 2 - *Thankful* by Elaine Vickers (DBC24416) - Narrated by Loretta Broker

When the first snow falls, a girl writes on strips of paper what she is thankful for, from a safe and warm home to wishes come true, as her family makes a thankful chain. Reading time: 8 minutes

Grades K-3 - *Harvest Days: Giving Thanks Around the World* by Kate DePalma (DBC24437) - Narrated by Shelley Swoyer

Explore harvest festivals from around the globe! Lyrical, rhyming text and lush, detailed artwork immerse young readers in some of the most ancient traditions in the world. Nine pages of educational endnotes dive deep with more information about the 12 cultures explored in the book and invite young readers to ask questions about food and the labor that produces it. Reading time: 32 minutes

Adult - *Harvest of Blessings* by Charlotte Hubbard (**DBC16317**) - Narrated by Theresa Sullivan

Returning to Willow Ridge, wealthy Nora Glick Landwehr will do anything to help her community embrace the future and make amends to the daughter she had to give up, but is distracted from the task at hand by her reckless new neighbor. Seasons of the Heart Series, Book 5. Reading time: 10 hours, 24 minutes

Christmas

Preschool-grade 2 - *A Mustache Baby Christmas* by Bridget Heos (**DBC19425**) - Narrated by Loretta Broker

Mustache Baby wants to be a Santa's helper like Beard Baby, but after making a workshop full of toys he decides to keep them for himself and lands on the naughty list. Reading time: 10 minutes

Grades K-3 - *The Twelve Days of Christmas in Missouri* by Ann Ingalls (**DBC16386**) - Narrated by Atticus Barnes

Welcome to Christmas in Missouri, the Show Me State. Cody's all ready to get a grand tour from his cousin Laila. Together, they'll count bald eagles, spelunk in caverns, eat Kansas City barbecue, visit the Pony Express Museum, and ride to the top of the St. Louis Arch. Reading time: 27 minutes

Adult - *A Victorian Christmas* by Catherine Palmer (**DBC24380**) - Narrated by Lesley LePage

A beautiful patchwork of four novellas about love and joy at Christmastime. Reading time: 11 hours, 15 minutes

National Library Service (NLS) News



New Online Catalog from the National Library Service

The new NLS catalog has a new, cleaner design, advanced search functionality, and direct links to BARD from catalog listings for quick downloads. Patrons can now directly request books to add to the NLS collection. Start exploring the catalog here at <https://nlscatalog.loc.gov>.

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library

NLS Programs Accessible by Phone or Zoom

Monthly *Many Faces of BARD* The Patron

Engagement Section of NLS now offers a monthly program called *The Many Faces of BARD* on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Central Time. Each monthly event covers one aspect of BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download service) and is open to all. For more information, please visit <https://loc.gov/nls/about/services/many-faces-of-bard> or call a Wolfner Reader Advisor at 800-392-2614.



Quarterly Patron Corner Program - As part of the Patron Engagement Section's (PES) mission to offer services, resources, and programs to enrich the library experience for patrons, it will host a quarterly Patron Corner virtual event where patrons can learn more about various services directly from NLS staff. The quarterly Patron Corner occurs on the second Monday of March, June, September, and December at 6:00 p.m. Central Time. Please call a Reader Advisor for more information.

NLS Is Offering Braille Calendars for Patrons

Call a Reader Advisor at 800-392-2614 to register for a free pocket-sized or wall-sized 2024 Braille calendar, available soon.

NLS Magazine Delays

NLS is experiencing production delays on Braille and audio magazines. Producers are diligently working through the resulting backlog. We apologize for the impact these production delays have on our patrons, and can assure you that all parties are working on this to reduce the backlog as quickly as possible.

Upcoming Holidays

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

- Monday, October 9 (Columbus Day)
- Friday, November 10 (Veterans Day - Observed)
- Thursday, November 23 (Thanksgiving)
- Monday, December 25 (Christmas)
- Monday, January 1 (New Year's Day)

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 65109

Wolfner Staff

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Public Services Team

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Jami Livingston, Adult Services Librarian
Brandon Kempf, Reader Advisor
Vanessa Lengyel, Reader Advisor
MaKenna Maskey, Reader Advisor
Meghan McCormack, Reader Advisor
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Stacy Jo Butler, Circulation Tech IV
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Emma Deuschle, Circulation
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