

Greetings from Wolfner Director Robin Westphal



One of my responsibilities as your Director of the Wolfner Library is to do the best job I can to make sure the Library's employees are not only doing the best job they can to serve you, but also to assure that they feel valued and content with their job.

In February of this year, we had an employee retire after 23 years. Cheryl Schreiman, Circulation Processing Assistant, was part of the team that made sure your machines and cartridges got to you and were properly checked in when you returned them. When asked why she stayed so long, Schreiman stated that she loved having a job where she knew that she was helping people get something they needed.

Cheryl is not an anomaly at Wolfner. In the past several years we've had staff members celebrate 20, 25, 44, and 50 years of service! That's not just incredible, it is rare.

A recent study by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in September 2022, indicated that the median number of years that an employee has been in their current job is less than 4-1/2 years. Wolfner has had several wonderful short-term employees who have left us for other opportunities, but the majority of our staff are long-termers.

An article in *Business Insider* states that there are four main reasons employees stay with an agency or company: a defined purpose, an environment of autonomy and trust, a focus on work/life balance and a feeling of family or togetherness with fellow employees. At Wolfner Library, we don't focus on these factors just because we want to keep employees, but because it is the right thing to do and something that even our team leaders want for themselves.

In the next issue of our newsletter, you will have the opportunity to complete a survey that we hope you complete so that we can quantitatively judge how we are serving you.



Cheryl Schreiman receives a statement of appreciation from Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft.

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library

Ultimately our goal is to have high levels of patron satisfaction AND employees that feel valued and proud of our purpose.

I think Cheryl had it right, we do love this job because it gives all of us the opportunity to provide something--reading material and programs--to a very appreciative patron base!

Robin

National Library Service (NLS) News

New Online Catalog from the National Library Service

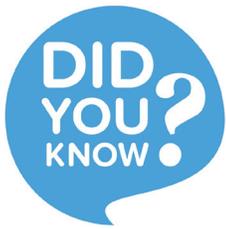
The new NLS catalog has a new, cleaner design, advanced search functionality and direct links to BARD from catalog listings for quick downloads. Patrons can now directly request books to add to the NLS collection. Start exploring the catalog here at <https://nlscatalog.loc.gov>.

New 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 will occur 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 Offers a Braille Calendar Subscription

You can sign up to receive a wall-sized or pocket-sized 2023 Braille calendar. They are expected to be available by mid-July, and will extend through January 2024.

After that, subscribers will automatically receive new annual calendars when they are published.

Call a Reader Advisor to get your subscription for these Braille calendars at 800-392-2614.

All Together Now—for Summer Reading

Can you feel spring in the air? You know what that means? Summer Reading is almost here!



We would love for you to join us this summer for a celebration of families, friends, neighbors, and communities. There will be opportunities for storytelling, sharing favorite recipes and traditions, games, exploring nature,

teamwork and crafting. Patrons of all ages are welcome to contribute to our community cookbook and our collaborative mural, which we plan to put on public display.

The Summer Reading program will run from June 1 to July 31, and registration will open up on *Beanstack* beginning May 1. There will be three age groups available: Children (birth-grade 5), Tween/Teen (grades 6-12), and adults. Any participant who logs five or more books read during Summer Reading will earn a completion prize and have their name entered in a grand prize drawing for their age group. You may request assistance from a Reader Advisor with registering on *Beanstack* and logging books read.

Be watching the Summer Reading news on Facebook and the Wolfner Library website for information on craft kits, a “prize shop” for kids and teens, and scheduled events as we get closer to the start of Summer Reading. Questions may be directed to our Adult Services Librarian, Jami Livingston, or our Youth Services Specialist, Lisa Kincaid. Call us at 800-392-2614 or email us at wolfner@sos.mo.gov.

“Libraries help put the UNITY in COMMUNITY!”

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library

Upcoming Book Club Titles

If you are ready to move ahead from winter and spring forward, here are the books for Wolfner's upcoming book clubs, scheduled on Zoom at 2:00 p.m. on the following Thursdays:

April 6 - ***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 - ***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 superhuman abilities. Mare, a Red, scrapes by until she publicly discovers she has a deadly ability of her own.

April 20 - ***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 - ***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*, swordsman chief Tor MacLeod is dedicated to his clan but wishes to avoid war.

May 4 - ***Star Wars: From the Adventures of Luke Skywalker*** by George Lucas (DB011495)

- Twenty-year-old Luke Skywalker works on his uncle's farm on the remote planet of Tatooine where he yearns for adventure among the stars. He receives more than he bargains for when he intercepts a cryptic message from a beautiful princess held captive by a powerful warlord.

May 11 - ***The Slow March of Light*** by Heather B. Moore (DB107365)

- In the summer of 1961, a wall of barbed wire goes up quickly in the dead



of night, officially dividing Berlin. Aware of the many whose families have been divided, Luisa joins a secret spy network, risking her life to help East Germans escape across the Berlin Wall and into the West.

May 18 - ***Scarred: The True Story of How I Escaped NXIVM*** by Sarah Edmondson (DB096936)

- Actress and playwright recounts her twelve years with NXIVM (pronounced NEX-ee-um)—an organization which has been accused of being a cult—and her work bringing in new recruits. Discusses the emotional ties built to retain members, the events which led to her leaving, and her work to help others.

May 25 - ***Anne of Green Gables*** by L.M. Montgomery (DB056114)

- Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm in Canada. There she proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

June 1 - ***The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*** by Douglas Adams (DB018339)

- When the Earth is demolished to make room for a galactic freeway, sole earth survivor Arthur Dent is forced to take up a life of hitchhiking around the cosmos with the aid of an alien friend and a book called 'Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.'

June 8 - ***Diary of a Young Girl*** by Anne Frank (DB040424)

- This notebook kept by a German-born Jewish girl includes material that was omitted from the first edition in 1947. Begun on her thirteenth birthday, the diary is a personal, sometimes humorous, account of years spent with her family in a Dutch attic hiding from the Nazis. After Anne heard a radio appeal about the importance of such papers, she expanded the scope of her entries.

June 15 - ***Book Lovers*** by Emily Henry (DB107926)

- Cutthroat literary agent Nora Stephens agrees to go to Sunshine Falls, North Carolina, when her sister Libby begs her to accompany her on vacation. Surprisingly, Nora keeps bumping into Charlie Lastra, a bookish, brooding editor from back in the city. It would be a meet-cute, if not for the fact that they've met many times and it's never been cute.

June 22 - ***The First Conspiracy: The Secret Plot to Kill George Washington*** by Brad Meltzer (DB093794)

- An account of a treasonous plan by George Washington's bodyguards, working together with New York City mayor David Mathews and New York governor William Tryon, to kill the commander in the months leading up to the Revolutionary War.

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July 6 - ***Free State of Jones*** by Victoria Bynum **(DB099810)**

- An account of the Jones County rebellion in 1863, when an armed band of Confederate deserters attempted to secede from the rest of Mississippi. The author traces the origins and legacy of the uprising from the American Revolution to the twentieth-century civil rights movement and separates legend from fact.

July 13 - ***Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*** by John le Carré **(DB038219)**

- In London, at the highest level of the British secret intelligence organization known as the Circus, it has become evident that a double agent has been implanted, perhaps by Moscow Centre. The list of suspects has been narrowed down to five brilliant men. George Smiley is called out of retirement to unearth the “mole” among his former colleagues.

July 20 - ***The Zhivago Affair*** by Peter Finn **(DB080743)**

- Journalist Finn and translator Couvée examine the life and major work of Boris Pasternak (1890-1960), author of *Doctor Zhivago* **(DB075275)**. Details influences on the novel, writing culture in the Soviet state, how the novel was published and its use by Western intelligence agencies as Cold War propaganda.

July 27 - ***Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*** by Rebecca Skloot **(DB070661)**

- Science journalist chronicles the life of African American Henrietta Lacks, who in 1951 had cervical tissue removed and grown in culture—without her permission—producing the first continuously replicating human-cell samples for research. Discusses subsequent medical breakthroughs, including the polio vaccine and AIDS treatment. Explores bioethical concerns involving tissue ownership.

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)

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.

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

Juvenile

- ***Invasion of the Unicorns*** by David Biedrzycki (**DBC24417**)

Narrated by Maggie Barnes.

Nominated by the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL) for a 2023-2024 Readers Award, this book follows Secret Agent Bubble07, who exactly resembles a stuffed toy and is on Earth to assess whether or not the unicorns should invade the planet. But despite some bizarre Earth customs like show-and-tell, and annoying Earth dogs, Bubble07 ultimately suggests that Earth would serve as an excellent vacation destination for unicorns.

Approximate reading time 8 minutes.

- ***Hugo and the Impossible Thing*** by Renée Felice Smith and Chris Gabriel (**DBC24419**)

Narrated by Caroline Ward.

All the forest animals know it is impossible to make it through the Impossible Thing, but a small dog named Hugo is determined to try, inspiring hope in his friends. Another 2023-2024 MASL Readers Award nominee.

Approximate reading time 10 minutes.

Young Adult

- ***Home of the Brave*** by Katherine Applegate (**DBC06341**)

Narrated by Bella Lyskowski.

A beautifully wrought novel about an immigrant's journey from hardship to hope. American culture, the Minnesota climate, and personal identity are examined in this moving first-person novel written in free verse.

Approximate reading time 2 hours, 23 minutes.

- ***Love at the Center of Grief*** by Cindy McIntyre **(DBC24331)**

Narrated by Patty Lockenvitz.

Gretchen and Hayden attend the Summerfort Grief Center on the outskirts of Branson, Missouri, to work through the loss of their mothers but fall in love helping each other.

Approximate reading time 13 hours, 26 minutes.

Adult

- ***A Culinary History of Missouri: Foodways and Iconic Dishes of the Show-Me State*** by Suzanne Corbett and Deborah Reinhardt **(DBC06002)**

Narrated by Audie Cline.

Interesting history of the evolution of foods in Missouri, spanning more than two hundred years. Includes more than eighty historical recipes.

Approximate reading time 5 hours, 56 minutes.

- ***The Steamboat Era: A History of Fulton's Folly on American Rivers, 1807-1860*** by S. L. Kotar and J. E. Gessler **(DBC19493)**

Narrated by Melanie Melton.

An interesting, in-depth history of the time when steamboats dominated the river waterways.

Approximate reading time 18 hours, 17 minutes.

- ***100 Things Cardinals Fans Should Know and Do Before They Die*** by Derrick Goold **(DBC24347)**

Narrated by Vaughn Whiting.

With 125 years of Cardinals history, this lively, detailed book explores the personalities, events, and facts every St. Louis fan should know. It contains crucial information such as important dates, player nicknames, memorable moments, singular achievements, and signature calls. This updated guide to all things Cardinals covers the artifact on public display that pays homage to Busch Stadium, the story behind the infamous "kidnapping" of Flint Rhem, the unforgettable acrobatics of "The Wizard" Ozzie Smith, and details on all 11 World Series championships, including the amazing 2011 triumph.

Approximate reading time 14 hours, 21 minutes.

Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library

Upcoming Holidays

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

- Monday, May 8 (Truman Day)
- Monday, May 29 (Memorial Day)
- Monday, June 19 (Juneteenth)

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 Listing

Director

Robin Westphal, State Librarian

Public Services Team

Lori Brown, Director of Public Services
Lisa Kincaid, Youth Services Specialist
Jami Livingston, Adult Services Librarian
Kitty Engler, Reader Advisor
Brandon Kempf, Reader Advisor
Meghan McCormack, Reader Advisor
Kenna Tervo, Reader Advisor

Circulation Team

Verhonda Winters, Director of Circulation
Stacy Jo Butler, Circulation Tech IV
Tim Emmel, Circulation/Production Tech II
Emma Deuschle, Circulation
Justin Stauffer, Circulation

Production Team

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