

A Message from the Library Director:

It is true that during difficult economic times, public libraries see very significant increases in use, and certainly we are seeing this now, as I am sure many of you have noticed! How wonderful it is to see the people of our community using all of the many resources available at the library. To name a few common activities:

- Reading the wide variety of books, newspapers and magazines available!
- Checking out books on every subject, dvds, books on cd, and back issues of magazines.
- Bringing laptop computers and using the library's free wi-fi, or signing up for a session on one of the library's ever-popular desktop computers. In many cases, people are conducting job searches, completing online job applications, working on resumes and cover letters, or even filing for unemployment benefits!
- Attending library programs- (we are seeing record attendance)!
- Using the library's meeting rooms for many different types of meetings.
- Availing themselves of expert help from the librarians and other staff members.
- Enjoying the beauty of the facility and its pleasant, inviting atmosphere.

With such tremendous use by the public, surely this would be the worst time for budget cuts, and Wilson County thankfully has budgeted wisely and is not in a position (at least not yet) to have to make drastic cuts to the County's departmental budgets. However, at the state level, cuts are already coming into effect for this fiscal year, and come July of 2009 we may see some severe impacts to the library budget caused by state cuts. It is vital that the people of North Carolina- including all of you- continue to support our public libraries during this time of great need. Together we can insure that the library continues to provide the many crucial services and materials that enrich our community. Please make your voice known and join us for Library Legislative Day in Raleigh on February 25th. More importantly, contact our Legislators directly and ask them to please protect the libraries from cuts! Every voice makes a difference! Thank you all very much for all you do in support of the library!!

Greg Needham

Do you know...

about *Novelist*? If you love reading novels, you know that sometimes you can't figure out what to read next. *Novelist* is here to help! This website is designed with leisure readers in mind and is a great way to find new titles and authors. If you just finished everything by your favorite author and want something similar, check out the Author Read-alikes for some suggestions. If you belong to a book club, the Book Discussion Guides can be an invaluable resource. Browse the Recommended Reads and Feature Articles to view suggested titles in genres ranging from thrillers to chick lit. Find the best and brightest by browsing the Award Winners. If you want recommendations coming directly from other readers,

the reviewers in What We're Reading update you every month on their latest finds. More than just titles, the articles in *Novelist* give you blurbs, reviews, and explanations of why those books were recommended. Once you start browsing you won't want to stop!

Novelist is one of the fantastic library resources available through NCLive - www.nclive.org - just give the library a call at 237-5355 to get the password. Once you've logged in, view the alphabetic list of resources and click *Novelist*. Happy browsing!

Genevieve Baillie

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of the Wilson County Public Library

NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY, 2009



Have you tried audio books and ebooks available online through NCLIVE? Heritagequest is now available through NCLIVE. Also available are articles from hundreds of newspapers and magazines, and much more. Call the reference desk for details, and visit www.NCLIVE.org. <http://wilsoncountypubliclibrary.sirsi.net>

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Dear Friends,

Thank you to all of the Friends of the Wilson County Public Library who helped make our Annual Meeting with speaker Amanda Lamb a huge success. On Thursday evening, January 22nd, over 100 people joined us at the library to hear the Friends' annual report followed by a discussion of investigative reporting, detective work, and the book entitled *Deadly Dose: The Untold Story of a Homicide Investigator's Crusade for Truth and Justice*. Amanda Lamb brought with her retired detective Chris Morgan, the "hero" of her book, who definitely stole the show. If you missed this event, please plan to attend our other upcoming, exciting programs scheduled in the Assembly Room at the library.

On **February 23rd** from 7-8:30 PM, Barton professor Rebecca Godwin will lead a discussion of **Wilson Read; Fitzgerald; Act 1**. This program will focus on *The Great Gatsby*, an American classic that is exciting and appealing to both men and women. Since it is on the high school reading list, we hope to have participation from many teen-agers.

In March we host **Anna Hayes**, author of *Without Precedent: the Life of Susie Marshall Sharp*. We will meet on **March 19th** at 7:00 PM to hear about the first woman to be elected Chief Justice of the NC Supreme Court.

In May the Friends of the Library will team up with The Theater of the American South to present **Wilson Read; Fitzgerald; Act 2**. Focusing on *Tender Is the Night*, this program will be led by Professor Jackson Bryer, a Fitzgerald scholar from the University of Maryland on **May 21st** from 4-5:30 PM.

Mark Your Calendar; Now and plan to be in the library assembly room for every program!

Our membership drive for 2008-09 has been another success; we have over 270 members with 40 new members. Thanks to everyone who has already contributed, and for those of you who have not, please keep in mind, it's never too late to join. If you have friends or family who are not members, please encourage them to pick up a membership form at the library today.

Hope to see you at the library in the near future!

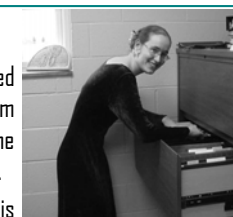
Vicki Hooper, Friends' President

New Head of Circulation Department

The sign hanging in her new office reads, "She is too fond of books, and it has addled her brain." Certainly, books have formed a large part of Genevieve Baillie's life from early childhood. However, when she used to sit and look through picture books in the children's area, she had no idea that one day she would be working in this very library.

Already a familiar face behind the circulation desk, Genevieve took over as head of this department when Carolyn Noe retired at the end of December. This is not her first library job - as well as volunteering in different libraries growing up, she also worked in the library at Barton College for five years while she received a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry, of all things! After that she focused on acquiring a Master's degree in Library Science from NCCU.

The new circulation head is excited to be in her new position. She recently commented, "The library has so much to offer the people of Wilson County, perhaps now more than ever. In hard times, the role of the library is increasingly vital and keeping abreast of technological change is an everyday challenge." She further stated, "We've got some exciting changes ahead which I hope will make the library even more accessible and relevant to the community. I'm thrilled to be part of it!"



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