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Wilson, North Carolina 27894-1022
www.wilsonlibraryfriends.org

PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR ANNUAL FRIENDS' MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

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 NEW MEMBER RENEWAL

Make checks payable to Friends of the Wilson Co. Public Library.

Return by mail or drop in Friends mail box at the Library!

CONTRIBUTION LEVELS	
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\$ 50 - \$ 99	First Editions
\$100 - \$249	Signed First Editions
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We are totally funded by your voluntary contributions. Levels vary widely, but every FRIEND counts.

www.wcpflfriends.org
wilsonlibraryfriends@gmail.com
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www.NCLIVE.org. Use your WCPL
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reference materials available 24-7.



NEWSLETTER - Spring 2020

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President's Message

Dear Friends,

Membership contributions to the Friends of the Wilson County Public Library make the difference between minimum funding for our libraries and excellent services. Please help by joining or renewing your membership contribution with the Friends today.

David McCullough stated this about public libraries, "I think the public library system is one of the most amazing American institutions. Free for everybody. If you ever get the blues about the status of American culture, there are still more public libraries than there are McDonalds. During the worst of the depression not one public library closed."

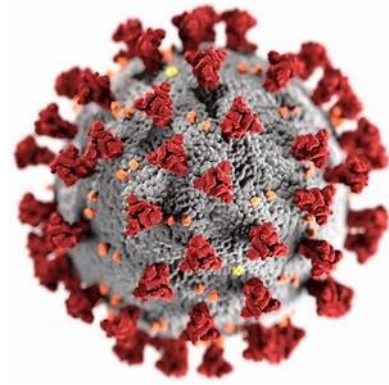
How important are Friends groups? They can literally make the difference between a budget increase and cut for their libraries. Since the beginning of the American library movement, Friends groups have been formed by citizens using their collective powers to do everything from running a book sale to ensuring that our American library legacy remains viable. By contributing as a library Friend, you can make a lasting difference for your library.

A recent Gallup Poll found that "visiting the library remains the most common cultural activity Americans engage in, by far." This poll stated the average 10.5 trips to the library in the United States in 2019 (for adults) exceed participation in other common leisure activities, such as: attending sporting events, enjoying a movie, visiting a casino, attending a museum or amusement park, or attending a live music or theatrical event (<https://news.gallup.com/poll/284009/library-visits-outpaced-trips-movies-2019.aspx>).

Your membership contribution will go directly to enrichment programs and library materials that help make our community a better place to live and learn. We are counting on your friendship and support!

Thank you all for supporting our Friends of the Wilson County Public Library

Angela Small



Stay Safe

Library Services during COVID - 19

Wilson County Public Library locations are closed to foot traffic until further notice due to COVID-19, but staff are working behind the scenes to provide essential services to our community.

Following closures to the public on March 20, the Library has been offering curbside pickup for materials at the Main Library and the Black Creek and Lucama branches. Books, audiobooks, DVDs, and magazines may be requested using the Library's catalog at www.wilsoncountypubliclibrary.org or you can call us. If you need recommendations, staff will be happy to help you discover your next great read.

Main Library: 252-237-5355 • Black Creek Library: 252-237-3715 • Lucama Library: 252-239-0046

Staff are working to answer questions, place holds, issue library cards, help with online resources, and provide curbside pickup from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 Mon-Sat at the Main Library and 10:00-6:00 Mon-Fri at the above two branches. Here's how to use curbside service:

Search the online catalog here: www.wilsoncountypubliclibrary.org Click the "hold" button, log in, and submit the hold. or you can call any open location. Wait for notification that your items are ready. Come to the Library and park. At Main, you'll see signs telling you where. Call the library when you arrive and pop the trunk of your car. Staff will bring your items in a bag, drop them in, and wave goodbye, all while maintaining social distancing. You'll need to close your own trunk.

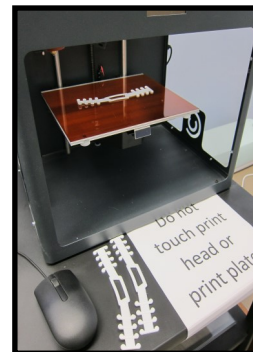
Book returns at all locations have been closed to protect our customers and staff, so please hold onto your checked-out materials until library locations have reopened. No overdue fines will be charged during closures.

If you'd rather use our "eLibrary," staff can help you download eBooks and eAudio, and access our variety of online resources available 24/7 with your library card. Go to the website and you'll find eBooks in CloudLibrary, NCKids, and Tumblebooks, and eAudiobooks in NC Live. Reference resources including test preparation, language learning, and educational videos are also available through NC Live. Visit www.wilsoncountypubliclibrary.org for more information. And remember, if you don't currently have a library card, we can set up an account for you over the phone.

Since we're closed to foot traffic right now, we are ramping up our online program offerings, including virtual storytimes on Facebook Live and our brand-new YouTube channel. Storytimes are offered via Facebook Live on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Soon to come, a Spanish story time and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) programming. Kids can also call Dial-a-Story, available 24/7, to hear a story read aloud. Please dial (252) 265-5570 for English or (252) 265-8433 for Spanish. Call us to learn how to access our virtual programs.

We are planning for the annual Summer Reading Program scheduled for June 15-August 10, 2020. This summer's theme, *Imagine Your Story*, will include a variety of amazing programs that may be adapted for virtual or in-person experiences, depending on social distancing guidelines at that time. This year, incentives will also be given to teens and adults who complete reading logs.

Staff members are working to develop new skills during these closures by attending online webinars and conferences, so we can serve you better when we reopen. We've even used our Makerspace equipment to sew fabric masks and to 3D print adjustable mask straps to hold them in place. After distributing masks to all open library locations, staff also sent them to other Wilson County Government departments. You can find an instructional video on our Facebook page and YouTube channel.



In a time of illness and uncertainty, we at the Wilson County Public Library are working intently, not only to offer essential services to Wilson County in the present, but to improve library services for the future. We look forward to welcoming everyone back and making your library experience better than ever!

Amanda M. Gardner
Assistant Director, Wilson County Public Library



Budget news from our Director:



"Next year's budget request has been submitted to county management and includes several new initiatives, starting with an application for LSTA funding for a new five-year plan. If approved, Library staff will work with a professional planning consultant to coordinate surveys and focus groups to contribute to the plan. This will be a great opportunity for the Friends to play a vital role in the planning process! As community members – not Library Trustees and not staff members – your voice is extremely important.

We are requesting capital improvement funds to build two study rooms in the Adult Services Department. As you know, the Main Library does not have enough meeting space to meet demand. Each study room would have space for small groups, or for use by individuals looking for quiet. We are also requesting funding for Phase Two of the flooring project to install hard-surface flooring in staff work areas and break room.

Perhaps our most important request is reduce the revenues earned by overdue fines. At their March 25 meeting, the Library Board of Trustees voted unanimously to remove this barrier to our services. The American Library Association has identified overdue fines as a barrier to service that disproportionately affects people living in poverty. "

Summer reading news:

The 2020 Summer Reading Program will run from June 15th through August 10th! This year's theme is "Imagine Your Story", highlighting mythology, legends, and fairy tales. Summer reading is proven to fight the "summer slide" and keep children ready to return to school in the fall. The Wilson County Public Library system is planning on a variety of programs and reading incentives for all ages at all of our branches, and we're ready to adapt them however is necessary to reach our readers over the summer! Summer Reading Programs at WCPL are made possible in large part due to the generosity of the Friends of the Wilson County Public Library.

SUMMER READING LIBRARIES ROCK!

Top Children's Fiction:

- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling
- Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas by Dav Pilkey
- The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies
- Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban by J.K. Rowling
- Ban This Book by Alan Gratz Wonder by R. J. Palacio
- Dog Man Unleashed by Dav Pilkey
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Getaway by Jeff Kinney
- Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607 by Elisa Carbone
- Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan

Top Young Adult Fiction:

- The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
- Legend by Marie Lu
- Cinder by Marissa Meyer
- Paper Towns by John Green
- The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
- The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne
- Lord of the Flies by William Golding
- Death Cloud by Andrew Lane Divergent by Veronica Roth
- The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins