Explore the Possibilities
2011-2012
In August 2011, Wake County Public Libraries launched a campaign to promote its programs and services using art from banners installed on the downtown Wake County Parking Garage known as the “L Building.” The art depicts an imaginary theme of travel and exploration and features local landmarks to suggest a journey that begins locally and moves around the world — The Fantastic Sky Race.

Empire Properties, led by Greg Hatem, sponsored a juried art competition to create the banners to cover and surround the L Building until future construction of office and retail space begins. The winner of the competition, The Balloon Boys, is a team of illustrators who are students from the School of Design at North Carolina State University. On August 4, 2011, a reception to unveil the art was hosted by the Wake County Board of Commissioners and Wake County Public Libraries. The L Building is adjacent to Raleigh’s Red Hat Amphitheatre and across from the Raleigh Convention Center’s “shimmer wall.”

The Balloon Boys are Joe Lawson, Justin T. Philips and Jordan Diva. All three participated in library events using the art throughout the year.

We secured permission to use the Fantastic Sky Race to promote library events and programs during the year and used it for this annual summary of library activity as well. Thanks to the Balloon Boys and to Greg Hatem at Empire Properties for the opportunity.
Message from the Director

2012 has been another busy year of change, growth, and inspiration for Wake County Public Libraries.

The year began with a wonderful opportunity to partner with the Wake County Board of Commissioners and Empire Properties to incorporate The Fantastic Sky Race into the promotion of libraries and library services. The whimsical art from the Balloon Boys has been used to market activities such as library membership drives, a coloring contest, a poetry competition, the reopening of the Richard B. Harrison Community Library, and our annual Booksale and Festival of Reading. The images appear on library computers throughout the county and are highlighting the cover and pages of this fiscal summary.

We completed an internal reorganization resulting in four senior managers now leading system initiatives and the Deputy Director now guiding all library operations. Similar library facilities have been structured and staffed alike to provide services in a more planned and organized manner. Peer staff groups are meeting to establish service philosophies, goals, activities and a menu of program options for library members of all ages. As a system, we are more engaged in the profession on state and regional levels, as well as in the community.

During this restructuring and reorganizing, we renovated and reopened three libraries. We circulated more than 12 million books in both traditional and electronic format, hosted more than one million public computer sessions, and provided more than 9,000 programs that educated, informed, and entertained 285,000 individuals. Staff answered more than two million reference questions, and researchers visited the library catalog more than 21 million times. Eight million people visited the library and another four million utilized the library remotely via our website.

We have remained relevant and progressive while weathering the economic crisis that began in 2008. Now we are engaged in developing long-range plans for future services, we have a schedule for reviving the Capital Improvement Plan to build and expand more libraries, and we are optimistically positioned to restore our book budget that was lost during the economic down turn. We look to the future with enthusiasm, stronger for having been diligent and purposeful over the past four years.

Our success is based on the support of the Wake County Board of Commissioners and Wake County Management, the loyalty of library members who visit every day, and our 210 dedicated staff members. The value you place on our work and in the purpose of the public library as a civic institution continues to inspire and motivate us. Thank you for your support and guidance as we approach the challenges of a new year.

Michael J. Wasilick, Library Director
System Highlights

The Fantastic Sky Race

On August 4, 2011 we celebrated the unveiling of “The Fantastic Sky Race.” The images are fun for all ages.

Eight million people visited the library and another four million visited us remotely via our website.

See Spot Read

Children across Wake County are given the opportunity to read to a tail-wagging dog during the popular system-wide library program “See Spot Read.” The excitement of curling up with a good book and a furry friend encourages reading.
18,000 visitors, including many families, attend the “Annual Booksale and Festival of Reading” in April 2012. Right: Library membership has its privileges (and tastes good too!)

We circulated more than 12 million books in both traditional and electronic formats.

Bernice the Cow

Young readers enjoy a program in the newly renovated Wendell Community Library with community partner, Farm Bureau.
Wake County Public Libraries: Professional and Community Leaders

North Carolina Library Association 2011-2013
- Dale Cousins, State Library Commission and NCLA President-Elect
- Brandy Hamilton, Chair for Public Policy Committee & Director at Large for Library Administration and Management Section
- Katrina Vernon, Chair of New Members Roundtable
- Avis Jones, Chair-elect for the Roundtable for Ethnic and Minority Concerns
- Debra Shreve, Chair-elect for the Youth Services Section
- Carol Laing, Chair-elect for the Women’s Issues in Librarianship Section
- Terri Luke, Chair, Marketing Committee of the Public Library Section
- JR Rogers, Reference Training Committee of the Public Library Section
- Betty Utley, Collection Management Committee of the Public Library Section

State Library of North Carolina:
- Youth Services Mentors—Every Child Ready to Read: Rita Bhattacharyya and Jane Deacle
- NC Children’s Book Award Selection Committee: Jane Deacle

Wake County
- Wake Technical College Learning Resource Center Advisory Board: Michael Wasilick
- Staff Sustainability Committee Chair: Helen Yamamoto
- Wake County Smart Start Chair-Elect: Dale Cousins
- Wake County Northern Regional Center Community Advisory Committee: Christina Piscitello
- Wake County Security Committee: Terri Luke
- NC Association of County Commissioners Conference Committee: Michael Wasilick & Dale Cousins

EBSCO Public Library Advisory Board & NC Live Permanent Resources Task Force: Theresa Cummings

American Library Association’s Grant Advisory Board, ALA/RUSA: Susan Wolf Neilson

North Carolina Storytelling Guild Secretary/Historian: Susan Adams
Royal Fairy Tale Ball

(above) North Regional Library hosts “Royal Fairy Tale Ball” for young costumed library visitors.

Raleigh Magic Club

(left) Raleigh Magic Club offers classes and a magic show at the Cameron Village Library. The group also donated a selection of magic titles to the system’s collection.

Wake County Public Libraries instills the love of reading and fosters the pursuit of knowledge among the residents of Wake County.

We provided more than 9,000 programs that educated, informed and entertained 285,000 individuals.
Awards 2011-2012

June 29, 2011  Overdrive Company’s Digital Pioneer Award: Wake County Public Libraries

October 2011  North Carolina Library Association/Marilyn Miller Award for Professional Commitment: Dale Cousins

October 2011  Honorary Member, North Carolina Library Association: Ruth Holleman, former Library Commission Chair, deceased

December 2011  North Carolina Public Library Directors’ Award for Service Innovation: Wake County Public Libraries, Digital Library

January 2012  Literacy Council of Wake County Volunteer of the Year: Dale Cousins

March 2012  Library Journal Paralibrarian of the Year (Honorable Mention): Connie Harr

March 2012  Fuquay Varina Woman’s Club Roll of Honor: Cindy McConnell

June 2012  American Library Association’s LAMA PR Exchange - Best of Show: Wake County Public Libraries: Summer Reading Video, 2011

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Week of the Young Child

Every reader is a winner when it’s the Week of the Young Child.

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6th Annual Storywriting Contest, West Regional Library April 2012

Fifty children, ages 7-11, entered the 2012 Storywriting Contest. Local writing teacher, Cassey Isset, and local author, Chuck Toscano, presented two writing workshops for participants. Winning entries were bound into a book and, along with trophies, were given to the winners by Deputy Director Ann Burlingame.
Grants Awarded in FY 12
for future use in Spring, 2013:

- NC Arts Council-Arts and Audiences Grant ($5,000) Readers to Writers system program from October 2011 through January 2012
- American Library Association/National Endowment for the Humanities Award ($2500) Holly Springs Community Library for Pride and Passion Baseball exhibit
- Target ($2,000) East Regional Library Moonlight Walk, September 2011
- Walmart ($1,000) Holly Springs Community Library youth programming, FY 2012
- Walmart ($500) Eva Perry Regional Library Puppetpalooza, March 2012
- Sisters in Crime Collection Grant ($1,000) to Southeast Regional Library for Wake County Public Libraries
- Junior Woman’s Club of Raleigh ($600) annually to fund Teen Library Corp at North Regional, Duraleigh and Leesville Community Libraries

Total Cash awards: $12,600

We answered more than two million reference questions.

Our Night Sky
Young astronomers locate the stars at the Holly Springs Community Library.

Puppetpalooza
The Eva Perry Regional Library hosts the first annual Puppetpalooza.

Researchers visited the library catalog more than 21 million times.
**Wake County Public Libraries: Readers’ Choice**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Popular Adult Books</th>
<th># of Check outs</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Help</td>
<td>4023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo</td>
<td>2901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Now You See Her</td>
<td>2271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe Haven</td>
<td>2159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Girl who Kicked the Hornets Nest</td>
<td>2099</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Popular Children’s Books</th>
<th># of Check outs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mockingjay</td>
<td>2882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hunger Games</td>
<td>2475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog Days (Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Book 4)</td>
<td>2432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curious George at the Aquarium</td>
<td>2408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ugly Truth (Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Book 5)</td>
<td>2187</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Checked Out eBook Titles</th>
<th># of Check outs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat, Pray, Love</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Confession</td>
<td>531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Help</td>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chasing Fire</td>
<td>383</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Checked Out eAudio Titles</th>
<th># of Check outs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo</td>
<td>494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Confession</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Help</td>
<td>347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mockingjay</td>
<td>332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th Judgment</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Baby Storytime
The library’s youngest visitors enjoy Baby Storytime.

Five Days in May
(above) Community agencies help the Southeast Regional Library celebrate “5 Days in May.”

Job and Career Assistance Lab
Adult library members utilize employment resources offered by the library in collaboration with Wake Technical Community College and JobLink.
Wake County Public Libraries is a division of Wake County Government’s Community Services Department. The library provides services to children, promotes recreational reading, encourages lifelong learning, serves as a community center and bridges the technology gap. The system operates six regional libraries, 13 community libraries, and the Olivia Raney Local History Library. Wake County has complete control over both program and funding decisions. Total funding allocated by the Wake County Board of Commissioners for the provision of library services in 2011 was $17,554,792.

December 16, 2011 was an exciting day for Wake County Public Libraries as it marked the reopening of the renovated Richard B. Harrison Community Library in southeast Raleigh. The Library’s renovation included new mechanicals, new furnishings, an enhanced collection, and a permanent tribute to the founder of the library, Mollie Huston Lee. Mrs. Lee opened the library in 1935 to serve the African American population of Raleigh. Her work continued in the 1960’s when all city libraries were merged to form the foundation of what is now Wake County Public Libraries. The legacy of her groundbreaking work continues to thrive in our library system today.
Commissioners

Wake County Board of Commissioners
Chair, District 7
Paul Coble, Chairman
Vice Chair, District 2
Phil Matthews, Vice Chairman
District 1
Joe Bryan
District 3
Tony Gurley
District 4
Ervin Portman
District 5
James West
District 6
Betty Lou Ward
http://www.wakegov.com/commissioners/default.htm

Library Commission
July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
Mrs. Carol Cutler-White, Chair
District 1
Mrs. Mildred Dail
District 2
Mr. Jason Herndon, Vice-Chair
District 3
Mr. Jonathan McCollum
District 4
Mr. Lee Sartain
District 5
Mrs. Catherine Jeffries
District 6
Mrs. Lynda Creutzburg
District 7
Mrs. Leona Bloom, Secretary
At-large Members:
Mr. Michael Burkhart
Mrs. Nancy Medlin
Ms. Mary R. Johnson
Mrs. Moni Singh
Mrs. Maryanne Friend

http://www.wakegov.com/libraries/about/librarycommission.htm
Library Administration

Library Director
Michael J. Wasilick
mwasilick@wakegov.com
919-250-4532

Deputy Library Director
Ann M. Burlingame
aburlingame@wakegov.com
919-212-7820

Senior Library Manager–Program/Community
G. Dale Cousins
dale.cousins@wakegov.com
919-856-6726

Senior Library Manager–Collections/Technology
Theresa Cummings
theresa.cummings@wakegov.com
919-250-1220

Senior Library Manager–Facilities/Security
Terri Luke
tluke@wakegov.com
919-463-8505

Senior Library Manager–Personnel/Training
Christina Piscitello
christina.piscitello@wakegov.com
919-870-4022
Library Locations

Regional Libraries – Hours

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Cameron Village Regional Library 919-856-6710
1930 Clark Ave., Raleigh, NC 27605

East Regional Library 919-217-5300
946 Steeple Square Ct., Knightdale, NC 27545

Eva Perry Regional Library 919-387-2100
2100 Shepherd’s Vineyard Dr., Apex, NC 27502

North Regional Library 919-870-4000
7009 Harps Mill Rd., Raleigh, NC 27615

Southeast Regional Library 919-662-2250
908 7th Ave., Garner, NC 27529

West Regional Library 919-463-8500
4000 Louis Stephens Dr., Cary, NC 27519

Large Community Branch Libraries – Hours

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Cary Community Library 919-460-3350
310 S. Academy St., Cary, NC 27511

Green Road Community Library 919-790-3200
4101 Green Rd., Raleigh, NC 27604

Holly Springs Community Library 919-577-1660
300 W. Ballentine St., Holly Springs, NC 27540

Leesville Community Library 919-571-6661
5105 Country Trail, Raleigh, NC 27613

Richard B. Harrison Community Library 919-856-5720
1313 New Bern Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610

Small Community Branch Libraries – Hours

Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Duraleigh Road Community Library 919-881-1344
5800 Duraleigh Rd., Raleigh, NC 27612

Fuquay-Varina Community Library 919-557-2788
133 S. Fuquay Ave., Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

Southgate Community Library 919-856-6598
1601-14 Cross Link Rd., Raleigh, NC 27610

Wake Forest Community Library 919-554-8498
400 E. Holding Ave., Wake Forest, NC 27587

Wendell Community Library 919-365-2600
207 S. Hollybrook Rd., Wendell, NC 27591

Zebulon Community Library 919-404-3610
1000 Dogwood Dr., Zebulon, NC 27597

Special Libraries – Hours

Athens Drive Community Library 919-233-4000
Athens Drive High School
1420 Athens Dr., Raleigh, NC 27606
Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Express Library Fayetteville Street 919-856-6690
336 Fayetteville St., Raleigh, NC 27601
Monday – Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Olivia Raney Local History Library 919-250-1196
4016 Carya Dr., Raleigh, NC 27610
Monday – Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.