



# News and Views

Friends of Union County Library

Spring 2009

*A Quarterly Publication*

## Library grant gets lawmakers approval

### ***Funds will help with expansion project***

Union County Library just received notification that its request for a grant has been approved in the Legislature and is pending approval of the Governor. The Grant is in the amount of \$1,665,000 dollars.

In addition the County is contributing \$900,000 in matching funds from the recently passed SPLOST which makes the total funding available \$2.565 million dollars.

Both Sen. Chip Pearson and Rep. Steve Allison

worked together with local officials Commissioner Lamar Paris, Mountain Regional Library Director Donna Howell, UC Librarian Susie Brendle, Friends of the Library and many, many individuals to make this a possibility.

Commissioner Paris said "I am thrilled and overwhelmed that the Legislators, Friends of the Library and the State Library Board were able to strongly advocate for this funding and the results of their

hard work is evident.

It is also important to note that the citizens of Union County worked for and voted for the approval of the latest SPLOST funding. Without matching funds, the process wouldn't get off the ground."

The funding will be used to construct and renovate the Union County Library, a program that has been on the needs to be done list for several years.

### ***Spring into action! Renew membership now***

As of March 15, 2009 we have 65 active memberships. Last year we ended with more than 200 members.

Our membership year runs from January 1- December 31. If you are one of our "forgetful" friends, please renew your membership today.

You may fill out at a form at the library at the front desk. We need all of our friends and new ones too. Thanks for your help!

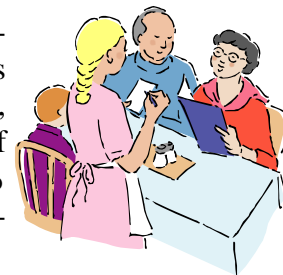
*Judy Baldwin  
Membership Chairperson*

### **Brother's Restaurant donates proceeds Of "Community Night" event April 23**

Friends of Union County Library will participate in Brother's Restaurant, Murphy, NC, "Community Night" the evening of April 23. FOUCL will receive 15% of the dinner sales for the night. Dining hours are from 4:30 to 8:30 pm.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this fundraising event. Bring your friends and family and enjoy an evening of good food in a pleasant environment while supporting our local library. Proceeds will be utilized to purchase furnishings and fixtures for the library expansion/renovation as part of the "LEAF Campaign".

Brothers Restaurant and Country Store is located at 5722 US 64 West in Murphy. Take 129N to end at light, turn left. For other information, please call 828-835-9100 or visit their website at [www.brothersrestaurantinmurphy.com](http://www.brothersrestaurantinmurphy.com).



## ***Trash & Treasure Sale set for May 1-2***

The date for the annual Trash and Treasure sale is set for Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2. Hours of the sale are 8 am to 2 pm both days. The annual fundraiser will be held at the library.

Donations for the sale are being accepted at the library every Tuesday from 9 am to 1 pm for the months of March and April. (no clothing or upholstered furniture please).

If you have questions or need assistance in transporting your items, please call 706-781-5237 or 706-781-5784. Contributions are tax deductible.

Proceeds assist the library in purchasing goods and services not included in the Union County operating budget.



### ***Welcome sweet springtime!***

Didn't we all enjoy those lovely warm days we had recently? March and April bring lots of surprises weather wise – warm days in March; snow in April.

We appreciate the Tuesday donations that are coming in for our next Trash and Treasure Sale to be held

## **Fall Auction returns following positive response**

*Mark Calendar for October 10, 2009*

Due to the overwhelming positive response to last year's auction, we have decided to hold the event again and have set the date of Saturday, October 10 for the 2009 event.

The festivities will begin with a silent auction from 5-6:45 pm followed by a live auction commencing at 7:00 p.m. and lasting to around 9:00 pm.

Many contributors from last year's event have again offered merchandise and services and United Community Bank has graciously signed up as one of our sponsors.

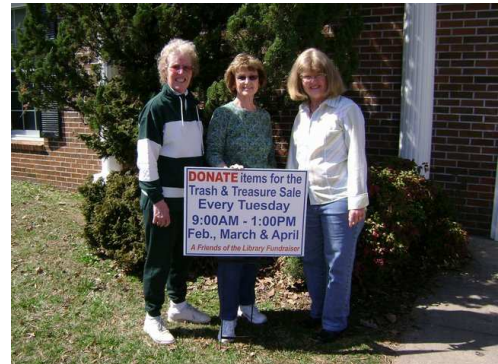
Though in the initial planning stages, the fundraiser promises to be a fun evening of good food, live music and great auction items.

If you would like to be a corporate sponsor or donate to the auction, please call 706-781-5237 or email [blairsvillejo@yahoo.com](mailto:blairsvillejo@yahoo.com).

Items we are accepting for the auction need not be new. Antiques, collectibles, art and other items are in demand. All donations are tax deductible. Artisans and craftsmen are also urged to donate items.

**Volunteers helping to collect items at the Library are from left, Miki Rice, Joanne Olson and Anna Stone. Not Pictured are Fran Kirkland and Hank Baldwin.**

**Sign donated by Roadway Sign**



May 1,2 in the multi purpose room of the Library.

The proceeds of the sale will go toward the furnishings for the new library expansion. If you have items that you can part with, we would really appreciate it if you would bring them to the library on any Tuesday before the sale. No clothing or

furniture will be accepted.

We have our architect working on the library expansion project and hope to break ground by mid-summer.

Things are moving forward quite well. Thanks to all of you for your continued support.

**Jeanie Bullock  
FOL President**

## *Plans moving forward for library expansion*



*Susie Brendle, Librarian*

We continue to be extremely busy at Union County Public Library.

Starting in January, we have been having monthly meetings with Architect Jack Bailey and the building committee to work on the plans for the library's expansion and renovation.

We have been referring back to ideas we got from our Fall library visits and are very excited about the plans that are immersing from all of the hard work. I truly think the community

will be very pleased with the final results. Our next building committee meeting with Mr. Bailey will be in April.

Library Legislative Day was Thursday, February 26, 2009 in Atlanta, Georgia. Mountain Regional Library System was well represented and we were able to talk to most of our representatives.

Commissioner Lamar Paris joined Mountain Regional Library System for Legislative Day and worked tirelessly talking with representatives. Mr. Paris is one of only a handful of county commissioners that has attended Library Legislative Day in the last 20 years.

Thank you very much, Mr. Paris, for championing our library project and continuing to be a true friend of the library.

I know the Friends have been working very hard writing letters and calling representatives about the

capital outlay grant. Your efforts have been noticed as well as the overwhelming community support for our library and the project ahead. *(see cover article)*

I'm also very excited about the fund raising projects that the Friends are planning this year. The Bass Fishing Tournament, the Trash and Treasure Sale, the Fall Auction and the continuing Miles of Pennies are all great projects that will bring in much needed funds for the library.

Thank you to Steve and JoAnne Olson and all of the other volunteers that are working so hard on these events.

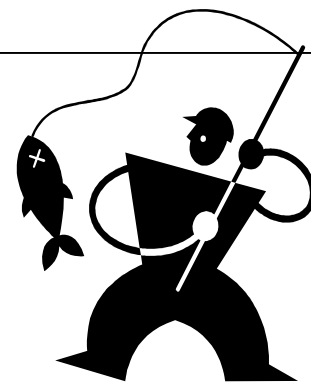
I hope everyone will have a wonderful Spring!

### **Bass tournament fundraiser April 18**

The Friends of Union County Library will sponsor the second annual Benefit Bass Tournament April 18, 2009. The event will be launched from the Deavertown Boat ramp at 7:30 a.m. and concluding with the weigh-in at 2 p.m.. Signup will kick off at 7:00 a.m.. A drawing for starting positions may be necessary depending on number of participating boats. The tournament will be rain or shine.

Entry fees will be \$25 per person, maximum two people per boat.

The payouts will total 50% of entries and will be made for the first three places. Tournament rules include a five fish limit of smallmouth, largemouth or spotted bass twelve inches in length or longer. Additionally, only artificial baits allowed, winners will be determined by total weight of catch. Participants under 12 years of age fish free. For additional information or clarification, please call **Steve Olson at 706-781-5784**.

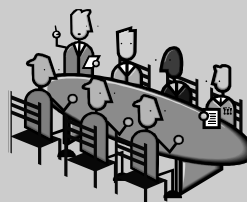


**Proceeds will benefit Books for Babies and other early reading programs sponsored by Friends of Union County Library. We look forward to your participation.**

## Friends of Union County Library Officers and Committee Chairpersons

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**Vice President: Shirley Brackett** 706-835-2581  
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**Secretary Arlene Gray** 706-897-9806  
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**Fundraising: Joanne Olson**  
**Books for Babies: Steve Olson**  
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## Union County Library Board



**Librarian:** Susie Brendle  
**Superintendent:** Dr. Lewis McAfee  
**Mayor:** Jim Conley  
**Commissioner:** Lamar Paris  
**Appointees:**  
Shirley Brackett  
Debbie Kendrick  
Jane Collins  
Melissa Mashburn  
Jane Thompson  
Joe White

**Friends of Union County Library**  
**P. O. Box 1029**  
**Blairsville, GA 30514-1029**  
[www.foucl.org](http://www.foucl.org)

**Membership Meetings:**  
**Third Wednesday of each month**  
**2 p.m. at the Library**  
**Everyone welcome!**



**Union County Library**  
**706-745-7491**  
**Library website:**  
[www.mountainregionallibrary.org](http://www.mountainregionallibrary.org)

Mailing courtesy of United Community Bank