



WAYNE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
LOCAL HISTORY

SUMMER 2024

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### **Local History**

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**WAYNE COUNTY**  
NORTH CAROLINA  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

## **Sweet Summertime!**

*By Anna Mitchell, Local History Librarian*



*From the Wayne County Public Library Collection*

*"Summer afternoon—summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language."*

*—Henry James*

Summer is here, and we are certainly relishing in the long days and warm afternoons! We had busy spring in Local History, and our time was filled with interesting research, engaging programs, and visits from wonderful patrons! We embarked on another digital exhibit, completed a three-part program series, and welcomed a summer intern! Stay tuned for updates about summer programs and more exciting work happening in Local History. And as always, drop by the Local History room the next time you're at the library. We'd love to see you!

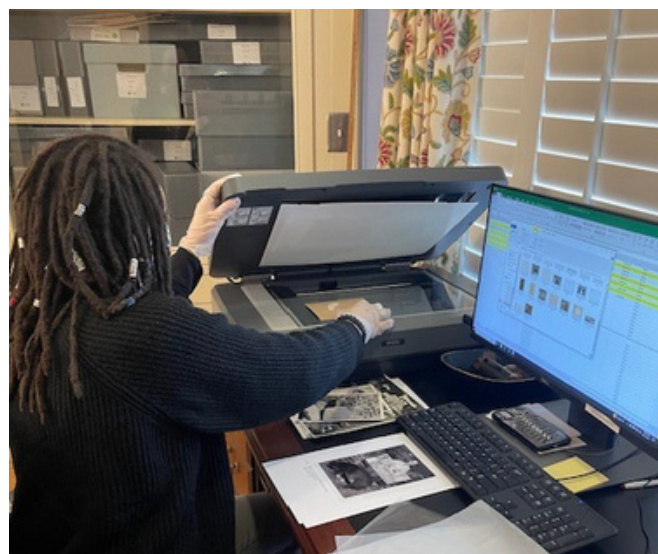


# Meet Our Intern!

*By Davia Webb, Local History Intern*

My name is Davia Webb and I am the Marty Tschetter Local History Intern for Summer 2024. I am pursuing a Master's in Library and Information Science with a concentration on archives and records management at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Along with my educational experience I have worked in several of UNC's libraries including the University's Special Collections, which has given me skills to jump right into my work with the Local History Department.

Currently, I am working on digitizing and describing our General Photograph Collection. This collection includes so much of Wayne County's history and broadens my perspective of the place I grew up in. I hope that digitizing this collection can increase its accessibility and aid people in finding photographs that relate to their research of Wayne County's history, genealogical projects, and curiosities!



*LH Intern Davia Webb uses great care as she digitizes and records our General Photograph Collection.*

## Why Digitize?

*By Davia Webb, Local History Intern*

Nothing lasts forever, but digitization can extend and expand the lifespan of physical records. Physical records are susceptible to loss or damage due to time or environmental factors. Digitization is a way to preserve information should something happen to the original record. Digitizing materials also increases access to records as they can be viewed online by multiple people at once. The Local History Department digitizes our collection materials in high resolution, and anyone can create digital copies of a record they wish to preserve using our scanners here at the library. Remember to add related information so you can find your digitized record easily in the future!



*H. Weil & Bros, 1928  
From the General Photograph Collection*

# Event Highlight: WWII History Series

By Anna Mitchell, Local History Librarian



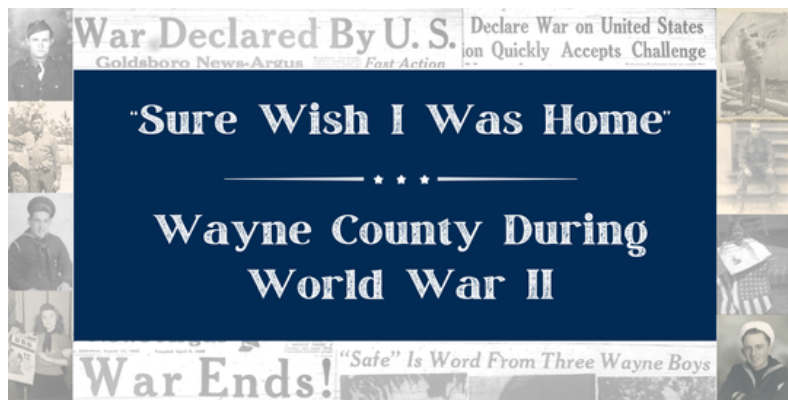
In June, the Local History department hosted a three-part series about the history of World War II. This series, a year in the making, was designed to offer multiple perspectives of the war's deep history. The speakers each offered a different topic and area of expertise for our patrons to appreciate. Dr. Roy Heidicker kicked off the series with a presentation about D-Day on the 80th Anniversary of the event. The following week, Wilbur Jones, a nationally known military historian, spoke about the roles of American women during the war. The series concluded with Al Cooke sharing about his father's



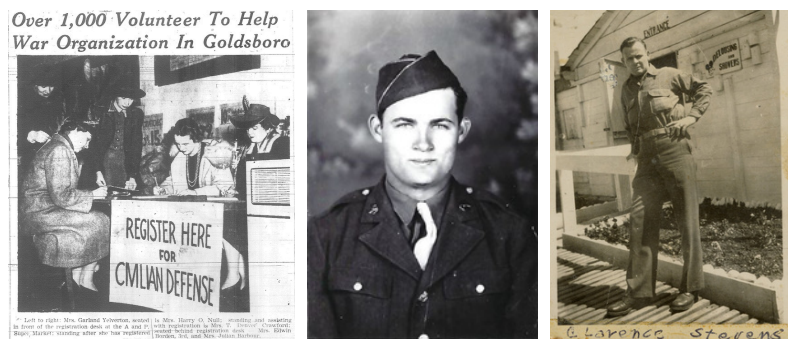
### Program Speakers

*Dr. Roy Heidicker, Wilbur Jones, Jr., Albert Cooke*

experience as a POW with an impoverished family waiting for his return home to Pikeville.



In addition to the program series, we created a robust digital exhibit called "Sure Wish I Was Home: Wayne County During WWII." This exhibit offers the hometown perspective of Wayne County through news articles, stories of the "boys" overseas, and the history of those left behind on the Wayne County home front.



The exhibit is a wonderful way to view the history of the war in our community. It is also a work in progress, so if you have family members you'd like to be included, please contact us! We will continue adding stories for years to come!

Top: Look for that exhibit logo on [waynecountymemory.com](http://waynecountymemory.com)

Bottom: A glimpse at some of the photos and stories from the exhibit!

To view the exhibit, visit: [waynecountymemory.com](http://waynecountymemory.com) or click Rosie's bandana!



# The Classic American Drive-In

By Kailauna White, Local History Assistant

**Now Open**  
(Tonight 7:30 P. M. First Show)  
**Goldsboro's Fine New Modern  
DRIVE IN THEATRE...**

The  
***Goldsboro Drive-In, Inc.***

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Located On S. Slocumb St. Extension  
Across From Seymour-Johnson Homes

★ The Finest Equipment ★  
★ Modern In-The-Car Speakers ★ Full Size Screen  
★ Fully Ramped For A Better View

Coming Attractions

**Tonight: "GOOD NEWS" In Technicolor**  
With June Allyson, Peter Lawford and Cartoon

**Sunday & Monday: "THREE DARING DAUGHTERS"**  
With Janet McDonald, Jose Iturbi and Cartoon

**Tuesday & Wednesday: "LITTLE GIANT"**  
With Abbot & Costello and Cartoon

**Thursday & Friday: "TARZAN'S N. Y. ADVENTURE"**  
With Johnny Weissmuller, Maureen O'Sullivan and Cartoon

**Two Shows Nightly Starting At 7:30**  
**Admission 40c; Children Under 12 Free**

*Digital scan from microfilm of the News Argus. Available in the Local History Collections*

A staple of American culture, the drive-in movie theater rose to prominence in the late 40s and quickly became the place to be. From families to first dates, the iconic imagery of classic American cars, popcorn, and a towering screen create a breathe of nostalgia. The allure of the drive-in theater laid in not only its novelty, but also its social significance. At a time when not everyone could afford tickets to an indoor theater or had easy access to them, drive-in theaters offered a more affordable and accessible alternative.

Opened on Saturday, April 16th, 1949, and located on South Slocumb Street, the Goldsboro Drive-In graced this small town with a state-of-the-art (for the time) sound system. Showcasing the cream of the crop for 1949, it became a hot spot of entertainment for old and young alike during our long Carolinian summers.

In the context of history, local and national, cinema has played a key role in capturing the culture of a certain time. Movies show us the wants, the dreams, the fears, and the hopes of their audience. They prove to be a time capsule of a world we've never known, and that is why it's important to look back to see how far we've come.

Want to cozy up with some classic Americana? Join us for our Classic Movie Nights! Keep an eye on our calendar for more info.

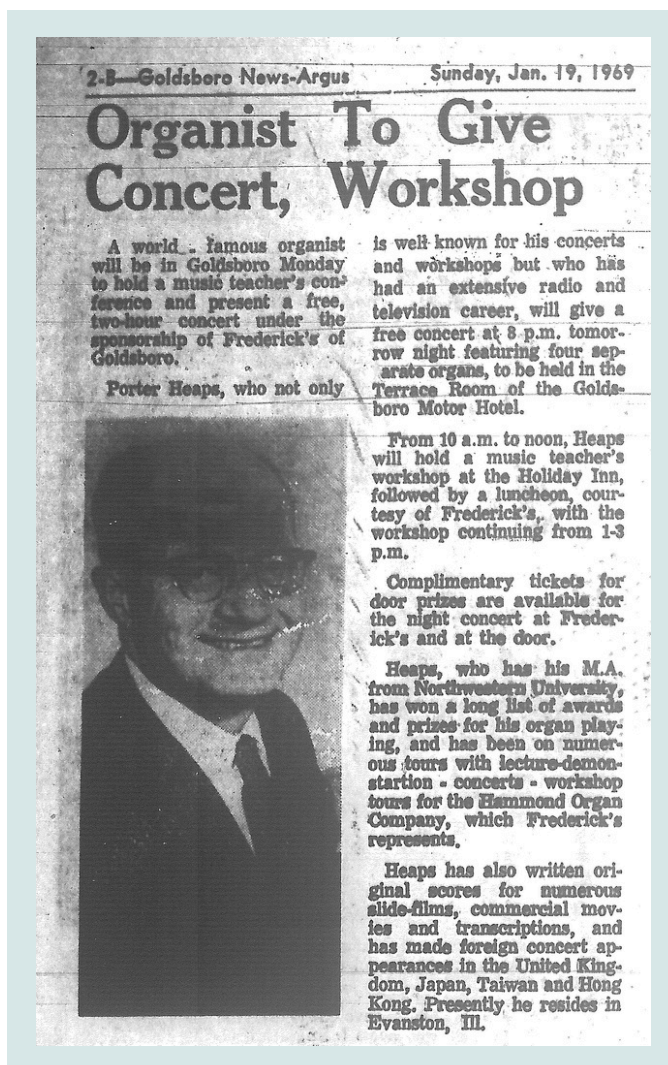


# That's Old News!

By Anna Mitchell, Local History Librarian

Scrolling through reels of our Goldsboro News Argus microfilm collection is a great way to get a glimpse of Wayne County's past! This clipping from January 19, 1969 announced a workshop and concert in Goldsboro by Porter Heaps, also known as "Mr. Hammond Organ." The workshop for music teachers as well as a concert for the public were hosted by Frederick's Music of Goldsboro. Heaps was well-known for his work as an organist and had an extensive career as a radio and television professional. He wrote music for commercials, film, and television. The concert was held at the Terrace Room of the Goldsboro Motor Hotel, now known as Waynesborough House.

Come visit the Local History Room for more Old News!



## Remember When...?

By Kailauna White, Local History Assistant

Throughout the 40s and well into the 80s, the bookmobile served as a bridge between the Goldsboro Library and rural communities. It's often that we'll have patrons come in and reminisce of standing along the road, bundled up in coats, excitedly waiting their turn to pick out books from the truck. The public need for a mobile library has led to Wayne County Public Library resuscitating the program, and the ability for rural communities to check out books will create new memories for generations to come!

# Programming Recap

## April

**Reading Cursive on Historic Documents**  
*April 9 @ 6:00 PM*

**Getting Started with Ancestry**  
*April 13 @ 10:00 AM*

**Recipe Swap**  
*April 23 @ 6:00 PM*

**Documentary Night**  
*Myths of the Titanic*  
*April 25 @ 6:00 PM*

**101 Plant Exchange**  
*April 27 @ 11:00 AM*

## May

**Oral History Training**  
*May 1 @ 4:00 PM*

**Preserving Family Photos**  
*May 2 @ 4:00 PM*

**Digitization Workshop**  
*May 3 @ 2:00 PM*

**Scrapbooking 101**  
*May 18 @ 12:00 PM*

**Author Event: Meredith Ritchie**  
*May 20 @ 6:00 PM*

**History Documentary Night**  
*Sounds of Jazz*  
*May 30 @ 6:00 PM*

## June

**D-Day: The Great Crusade**  
*June 6 @ 6:00 PM*

**Introduction to Fold3**  
*June 11 @ 2:00 PM*

**American Women During WWII**  
*June 13 @ 6:00 PM*

**Using Our Local History Collection**  
*June 18 @ 3:00 PM*

**Experiencing the War from Home**  
*June 20 @ 6:00 PM*

**Classic Movie Night**  
*I Was A Male War Bride (1949)*  
*June 26, 6:00 PM*

# Upcoming Programs

## July

**What is PassitDown?**

*July 3 4:00 PM, Local History Room*

An informational session about our online exhibit platform! Learn how you can share your Wayne County memories with our library!

**What's That Say?**

**Reading Cursive on History Documents**

*July 9 @ 6:00 PM, Local History Room*

Reading the penmanship of the past can prove to be one of the largest stumbling blocks to doing historical research. Join us for this informational session and workshop and learn tips and tricks for deciphering those tricky cursive letters.

**Introduction to Genealogy**

*July 15 @ 6:00 PM, Local History Room*

Join us for an informative workshop about how to get started with your genealogy research. Work with our Local History Librarian to learn how to use the variety of resources available at the Wayne County Public Library, and learn who you are. This will include databases such as Ancestry, Fold3, and Heritage Quest. Registration strongly encouraged.

**Classic Movie Night**

*All About Eve (1950)*

*July 24 @ 6:00 PM, GW Auditorium*

Grab your popcorn and join us for a classic screening of *All About Eve* starring Bette Davis and Anne Baster!

Call 919-735-1824 ext. 1830 or email  
[library.localhistory@waynegov.com](mailto:library.localhistory@waynegov.com)  
to register!