



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Mystery Writer Keith Donnelly to Speak at the Winter Author Dinner**

**January 3, 2012, Monroe, NC** – Keith Donnelly, the author of the Donald Youngblood mystery series, will be the speaker at The Friends of the Union County Public Library's Winter Author Dinner on Thursday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. at South Piedmont Community College Conference Center in Monroe.

The Winter Author Dinner is one of the major fundraising activities of The Friends of the Union County Public Library. Tickets are \$35 and are available by calling Renee Hottle at 704-907-9190 or emailing her at [rahottle@aol.com](mailto:rahottle@aol.com).

The Friends of Union County Public Library funds various programs offered at the Union County Public Library's four branches. Last summer the group was a sponsor of the library's Summer Reading Program for children and teens in Union County.

"It is thanks to the kind contribution, support, and hard work of The Friends of the Union County Public Library that we were able offer programs that were attended by over 8,000 children over the summer," said Kacy Vega, children's services coordinator for the library system. Funds provided by The Friends of Union County Library augment local government funding.

This year's speaker, Keith Donnelly, writes mysteries featuring private investigator Donald Youngblood. One review noted that the characters were people that you wouldn't mind hanging out with for a few hours at a barbeque. Donnelly joins the ranks of other notable southern mystery writers such as Margaret Maron and Mark de Castrique.

Donnelly grew up in east Tennessee. He attended East Tennessee State University earning a B.S. in Economics. After a long career as a book manufacturing sales representative, Donnelly retired in 2009 to become a full-time writer. He is currently working on a fourth Donald Youngblood mystery.

Books will be available for purchase by cash or check at the program.

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