



Main Library, Monroe Edwards Memorial Library, Marshville Union West Regional Library, Indian Trail Waxhaw Library, Waxhaw

For Immediate Release

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Racial Implications of 1921 Trial Featuring Marvin, NC

February 20, 2017, Monroe, NC – The Monroe Branch of the Union County Public Library will host author, Gene Stowe as he discusses the racial implications of the 1921 Ross will case on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 3 p.m.

In his book *Inherit the Land*, Gene Stowe chronicles the events leading up to the wills of white sisters, Susie and Maggie Ross. The book then follows the trial contesting Maggie's will in 1921. The case involved the will of one of the sisters that left most of her worldly possessions, including hundreds of acres of land, to a black man, Bob Ross and his daughter Mittie Bell, with whom the Ross sisters were very close.

As a former writer for The Charlotte Observer's Union Observer, Stowe learned of the Ross will case years ago. He says that "much can be learned from looking at this trial and its outcome." During his presentation, Stowe will talk about race relations in Marvin and Union County during the 1920s and the racial implication of the trial.

For more information, contact: Gypsy Culp Houston, 704-283-8184 ext. 232 and ghouston@unioncountync.gov.

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About Union County Public Library

The Union County Public Library is a free provider of information for the people of Union County, North Carolina. With four locations throughout the county, the Library offers free materials, computer access, classes, programming and more to everyone from babies to scholars. The Union County Public Library serves more than 500,000 patrons who come through its doors annually and who use its resources at www.union.lib.nc.us.