

randolph county public library

www.randolphlibrary.org



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NEWS

Volume XIV No. 10

April 2006

New Gates grant to beef up library computing

♣ A new grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the State of North Carolina will provide funds for more public Internet computers and an Asheboro library wireless access point.

The Gates "Staying Connected Grant" follows up on the Gates Library Program, in which the foundation awarded computers state-by-state to libraries based on community poverty level. The Asheboro, Liberty and Randleman libraries received a total of 14 computers well-stocked with software and two servers in 2001 as part of this program.

The new grant provides \$10,080.81 for computers, hardware and software related to public Internet use.

The Gates Foundation is providing 75 percent, with 25 percent provided by the state through the State Library of North Carolina, Department of Cultural Resources.

The grant will add two public Internet computers and replace six at the Asheboro library; the replaced computers will go for uses elsewhere in the system, including for additional public Internet stations at the Liberty library.

The grant also will fund a wireless access point at the Asheboro library that will enable patrons to have Internet access on their wireless laptops while using the library. Operating system and memory upgrades to the remaining public Internet computers will be funded, as well.

The library expects to begin the project in May.

Author Ben Frazier pens second suspense novel

♣ Seagrove novelist Ben Frazier will feature his newest work, *Thicker than Water*, at reading and signing, 7 p.m. Thursday, May 4, at the Asheboro library.



Ben Frazier

The program, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, is free and the public is invited.

Frazier's first novel, *Shelly's Diary*, chronicled the murder trial of two young women in the mountains of southwestern

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Celebrate Poetry month with 'Open Mic Night'

♣ For a second time the Asheboro library hosts Open Mic Night

at 7 p.m.
Wednesday, April 26
share your poetry

help us celebrate
National Poetry Month
read your work aloud

Submit: a contest
Wednesday, April 19
entries are due

bring them, a visit
at library Reference desk
drop them off

It's 'Open Mic Night'
judge unseals the envelopes
winners are announced

let others hear you
you're the next e.e. cummings
get adulation

teenagers welcome
everyone is invited
eat, drink: refreshments

KA Programming
Friends of the Library
sponsor the event

find out more about
National Poetry Month
go to poets.org

Franklinville's library was first in county

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Archdale

336-431-3811
 Fax 336-431-4619
 10433 S. Main St.
 Mon, Wed, Fri 9-6;
 Tues, Thur 9-8;
 Sat 9-5

Asheboro

336-318-6800
 Fax 336-318-6823
 201 Worth St.
 Mon-Thur 9-9; Fri 9-6;
 Sat 9-5

Randolph Room

336-318-6815
 Mon, Thur-Sat 9-5
 Tues, Wed 9-9

John W. Clark

(Franklinville)
 336-824-4020
 111 Sumner Place
 Mon-Fri 2-6; Sun 2-5

Liberty

336-622-4605
 Fax 336-622-4605
 239 S. Fayetteville St.
 Mon, Wed, Fri 9-5;
 Tues, Thur 9-7; Sat 9-1

Ramseur

336-824-2232
 Fax 336-824-2232
 1512 S. Main St.
 Mon-Fri 8:30-5:30

Randleman

336-498-3141
 Fax 336-498-1139
 122 Commerce Sq.
 Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 10-1

Seagrove

336-873-7521
 530 Seagrove Plank Rd.
 Mon-Thur 1-7; Fri 12-6
 Sat 10-3

Extension Service

336-318-6816 or 336-318-6817
 Mon-Fri 9-5

Dial-A-Story

336-318-6833

**from
 the
 director**

by Suzanne Tate



Franklinville was first!

♣ **Randolph County's oldest library began in 1924 in a small room in the Community House or the Franklinville Inn, depending on which source you use, with Katherine Buie as librarian.**

Randolph Mills President John W. Clark decided his employees and the citizens of Franklinville needed free access to books. The collection was comprised of some of his personal works, 200 books on loan from the State Library and some second hand titles purchased in Boston. Among the many unique features of the library is a 14 volume collection of State Records from 1715-1790 compiled by Mr. Clark's father, Walter Clark, chief justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court for 22 years. Ever concerned about the welfare of the people, Mr. Clark, grandson of Governor W.A. Graham, opened a movie theatre, established a 40 acre public park and built a modern waste treatment plant which permitted connections by the townspeople.

The Franklinville Library opened in the basement of the Company Store, moved to Hank's Masonic Lodge and finally, in 1963, to the second floor of Town Hall where it is currently located. In 1969, the library was enlarged, remodeled and named the John W. Clark Public Library following Clark's death in April of that year. On January 7,



1995 a fire began in a ballast at the Randolph County Sheriff's Department satellite office, which shared a wall with the library. The fire was soon extinguished but not before the ceiling was destroyed, 100 books lost to water damage and a layer of soot covered the surfaces.

The library reopened on April 12, 1995 with a new ceiling, better lighting and shelving, central heat and air, and a new service counter. Thankfully, the gorgeous maple flooring survived the ordeal. New furniture, plants, rugs and wall hangings were added, creating a comfortable and inviting atmosphere. Then-librarian Maxine King, now-deceased wife of author Henry King, oversaw the transformation following the near tragedy with great pride. She served the library from 1960 until her retirement in 1995.

The second story location near a sometimes busy street has led town

continued on next page

Historical photo database moves to new online library catalog

♣ **The Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection is now accessible through the Horizon Information Portal library catalog.**

The database was created in 2003 with a federal grant as part of a statewide program to digitize archival collections and make the available online. Library staff scanned more than 1,500 photos from the Randolph Room collection, which includes pictures from the late 1800s through the 1980s.

Although a customized database was created to provide access to the

photos, the new library catalog has the capability to display the images and all the information about them, while at the same time making them searchable along with everything else in the catalog.

Users also are able to search only for the historical photographs, and to browse them by subject.

A "printable view" page that makes the photos easy to print on a regular size piece of paper is in the works.

To search the database, go to www.randolphlibrary.org/historicalphotos.htm.

Frazier to debut suspense novel at Friends of the Library program

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Virginia. *Thicker than Water* follows the fortunes of Pyke Elliott, a Virginian who goes into business with a ruthless family that operates a lumber company in Georgetown, South Carolina, and finds out where the bodies are buried in

the small coastal village.

Frazier, a Seagrove native, graduated from Seagrove High School and Campbell University. After a stint in the National Guard, he worked 28 years for the company that became Klaussner Furniture Industries. He retired as executive vice president of Klaussner.

Clark's library was county's first

(continued from previous page)

leaders and the library board to consider plans for moving the library to a new location. The Town of Franklinville purchased the Poole's Grocery building (old Company Store) in 2003 for possible renovation. Restoring a structure that old would involve lots of money and labor. Several board members and volunteers opened Franklinville Library Thrift Store in 2003,

located in a section of the building. In operation from 2003-2005, the store garnered nearly \$30,000.00 in profits for the library relocation process. I bought my best dress there for \$2.00!

The John W. Clark Library is open from 2-6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 2-5 p.m. Sunday. Librarians Martha Cain and Lydia Craven will be pleased to give you a tour and help you find what you need!

Asheboro Reads

Next up for Asheboro Reads is *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines, 2-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 25.

The title for May 30 is *The Same Sweet Girls* by Cassandra King.

Asheboro Reads is the discussion group that meets at the Asheboro library on the last Tuesday of each month. Anyone who wants to talk about the month's book is invited.

Donate books

Done with that 1961 set of encyclopedias? Old tomes collecting dust? Donate your no-longer-needed books to the Friends of the Library Book Sale. The Friends will accept any books in good condition except Readers Digest Condensed Books and magazines.

Bring your books to the book sale, or contact the library at 318-6801.

Book sale

The Friends of the Library book sale will take place from 9-3 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at the Friends Book Store off the Asheboro Public Library parking lot.

In addition to the regular sale, a large collection of romance novels will be on sale in the library lobby, priced at four books for \$1.

Authors to focus on small towns for Liberty program

Local authors Scott Dickson, Julia Taylor Ebel and Jonathan Farlow will talk about "Life in a Small Town" at 2 p.m. April 23 at the Liberty Public Library. The

program is free and the public is invited.

For more information, go to www.randolphlibrary.org/Small_Town.pdf.

Friends of the Randolph Public Library

YES! I'd like to become a Friend and support the wonderful programs sponsored by the Friends each year:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

- Student \$2
- Adult \$10
- Family..... \$15
- Patron \$25
- Bookworm..... \$50
- Benefactor..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$250
- Corporate Sponsor..... \$_____

Mail to: Friends of the Library
P.O. Box 2806
Asheboro, NC 27203
Memberships are tax deductible

YES! I'd like to help: ___Program planning___Program Receptions ___Book Sales___Membership

Randolph County Public Library

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Asheboro, NC 27203

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Randolph Room..... 318-6815

Reference & Information.. 318-6800

memorials & donations

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By: Neil and Sandra Allen

In Memory of: Jack Johnson
By: Milton and Linda Redding

In Memory of: R.S."Sonny" Davis
By: Susan Coltrane

In Memory of: Finley Willis Stewart
By: George and Lib Miller

In Memory of: Jane Cochran Fox
By: Reviewers Book Club

In Memory of: Jim and Jane Fox
By: Sue Joyner

In Memory of: Lequita and Danny Ingold
By: Joan M. Allred