

randolph county public library

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Volume XIII No. 9 • March 2005

NEWS

NO WASTELAND HERE:

April is the busiest month...

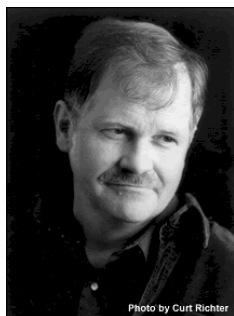


Photo by Curt Richter

...**bringing** famed North Carolina novelist **Robert Morgan**, author of *Brave Enemies* and the Oprah-selected *Gap Creek*, to "A Tisket... A Tasket, a Literary Basket," a Friends of the Library gala featuring music, a buffet dinner, a silent auction of gift baskets full of autographed books, at Asheboro Country Club on **April 23**;

...**swinging** to the tunes of master guitarist **Larry G. Davis** and friends during the fifth annual Glenn Davis Memorial Concert on **April 12**, which Larry promises will shake things up with some new musicians and different types of music;



...**singing** with Asheboro resident **Lane Ragsdale** during a performance on **April 14** that includes tunes such as "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "I'll Be Seeing You" and "Send in the Clowns";

...**fooling** for April Fools with **Jonathan Farlow**, **Marianne Aitken** and **Forrest (Shane) Sisk** as they return on **April 7** with witty poems and stories, and the debut of **Jon's latest novel**;



...**exploring** career opportunities with area companies at the Friends of the Library's **Teen Job/Career Fair** on **April 9**.

LOOK INSIDE FOR MORE...

Library gets \$100,000 Smart Start grant for new kids' material ...see page 2

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
354 Old Plank Rd.
Mon-Thur 1-7

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

Dial-A-Story
336-318-6833

**from
the
director**

by Richard Wells



\$100,000 Smart Start grant to fund childrens' materials

♣ **There is good news for young children, their parents and their teachers in Randolph County.**

The Randolph County Partnership for Children (RCPC) — Smart Start — has awarded the Randolph County Public Library a grant of \$100,000 for the purchase of books and audiovisual material for children ages 0-5.

The RCPC realizes that the best method to get books in the hands of young children and their parents is to use the public library system. Randolph County is large geographically with its population spread all over. The seven public libraries make a library accessible for the vast majority of residents.

This unique grant also allows us to purchase books for parents and teachers of young children, an important aspect. We also will make available materials for children with special needs.

Our plan is to purchase eight copies of each title: one for each of the seven libraries and Extension Services. Extension Services visits day cares and the homebound throughout the county.

It was exactly five years ago that RCPC awarded the library a similar grant. We have tracked usage of the books and other material over the years and they have been well used by our

citizens. Books for this age group are very popular.

The overall purpose of this grant, RCPC and our own children's services is simply to instill in children a love of reading. It has been proven over and over that a child who is introduced to reading at an early age is better prepared for school and life. Reading is basic and needs to be introduced early for children to develop the skills to see them through life.

The entire staff of the Randolph County Public Library is excited and pleased about this grant and the positive impact it will have on young children and their families in our county. The RCPC knows how to reach young readers and by making this grant available has fulfilled a major objective.

Look for the new materials beginning in late April.

Poet McFee to read at Archdale

Poet Michael McFee will present a reading of his poetry at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, at the Archdale library. McFee is author of six collections of poetry and two anthologies of North Carolina literature. He is an English professor at UNC-Chapel Hill.

McFee appears through Carolina Speakers.

**randolph county
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news

The Randolph County Public Library NEWS is published monthly by the Asheboro Randolph County Public Library and the Friends of the Library. To subscribe, join the Friends by returning the membership application on page 4.

Richard Wells, Director • Janet Jones, President, Friends of the Library • Ross Holt, Editor
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Farlow to debut second novel; shares stage with humorists

♣ The debut of Jonathan Farlow's novel *Brouhaha* will highlight the return of Farlow and fellow humorists Shane Sisk and Marianne Aitken at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7, at the Asheboro Public Library.



the pandemonium that develops when a local eccentric challenges the longtime mayor of Ashewood Falls.

Novelist Pamela Duncan calls *Brouhaha* "a laugh-out-loud funny, biting, tender tour of a Southern community during election season"

She adds: "Farlow mixes

small-town politics, adultery, returning prodigals, mysterious maternity, self-satisfied real estate developers, overzealous environmentalists, the DAR, Weight Watchers, fried chicken, domestic violence and bowling to create a delectable second novel. *Brouhaha*, brimming with humor, suspense and a cast of deranged yet loveable characters, is one rollicking good read."

Farlow will sell and sign books in addition to reading from his new work.

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

Sisk, a "cowboy poet" who has been writing since the age of seven, specializes in humorous poetry with nature and western themes. Aitken started out as a writer with a love of humor, but discovered a gift for public speaking and combined the talents to become a polished storyteller.

Sisk and Aitken have teamed with Farlow in three previous library events.

Brouhaha is Farlow's follow-up to his first novel, *Holy War*, and concerns

Asheboro Reads announces titles

♣ Asheboro Reads, the Asheboro Public Library's afternoon book discussion group, moves into 2005 with more though-provoking reading.

All discussions take place from 2-3:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of each month at the Asheboro Public Library; anyone who has read the book to be discussed is invited.

Upcoming titles include:

- **March 29:** *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith;

- **April 26:** *Prodigal Summer* by Barbara Kingsolver;
- **May 31:** *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns;
- **June 28:** *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel;
- **July 26:** *Confessions of a Pagan Nun* by Kate Horsley;
- **August 30:** *The Mermaid Chair* by Sue Monk Kidd;
- **September 27:** *Blessed are the Cheesemakers* by Sarah-Kate Lynch;
- **October 25:** *Chocolat* by Joanne Harris;
- **November 29:** *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson.

At a glance

Asheboro Reads *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*, 2-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, Asheboro Public Library.

Michael McFee, 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, Archdale Public Library.

Three humorists, 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7, Asheboro Public Library.

Teen Job/Career Fair, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 9, Asheboro Public Library.

Glenn Davis Memorial Concert, 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, Asheboro Public Library.

Vocalist Lane Ragsdale, 7 p.m. Thursday, April 14, Asheboro Public Library.

Book Break, At Home in Covington, 2-3:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 19, Archdale Public Library.

A Tisket... A Tasket, a Literary Basket, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 23, Asheboro Country Club.

Genealogy Workshop, 9:30-noon, Saturday, April 30, Archdale Public Library.

Book sale

The Friends of the Library book sale will take place from 9-3 p.m. Saturday, March 26, at the Friends Book Store off the Asheboro Public Library parking lot.

Archdale library to host genealogy workshop

How to undertake genealogical research, and how to verify information found, will be the topic of a workshop from 9:30-noon Saturday, April 30 at the Archdale Public Library.

Presenters will be Randolph Room Librarian Marsha Haithcock and local genealogist Betty Leach Brown. The program is free, but registration is required; call the library at 431-3811 to sign up.

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:

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- Family..... \$15
- Patron \$25
- Bookworm..... \$50
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- 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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Sosis Bookclub

In Memory of: Jane W. Burkhead
By: Anne Moore

In Memory of: Sue Jackson Cheek
By: Ed and Nancy Bunch
Anne Moore

In Memory of: Lauro Concutelli
By: Ron and Sharon Bennett

In Memory of: Judy Boyd Currie
By: Becky and David Hughes

In Memory of: Ernest H. Smith
By: Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Adams
Joan and Jim Culberson
Mrs. Evan Minier

In Memory of: Frances Russell Elkins
By: Randolph County Genealogical Society

In Memory of: Sarah Louise Hinson
By: Lynne Qualls

In Memory of: Tommie Joe Johnson, Sr.
By: Virginia S. Roberts

In Memory of: Tyler Reynolds Lisk
By: Bob and Carol Donnell

In Memory of: Dorothy Matthews
By: Lynne Qualls

In Memory of: Joshua M. Newton
By: Bob and Ann McGlohon

In Memory of: Don Gordon Parks
By: Randolph Public Library Staff
Arlene Smith and Suzanne Tate

In Memory of: Robert Prince
By: Reviewer's Book Club

In Memory of: Eldora King Robbins
By: Carol Donnell

★ ★ ★ **EXTRA** ★ ★ ★

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NEWS

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Novelist Morgan to highlight gala

♣ **A literary, culinary and musical Friends of the Library event will feature an appearance by celebrated North Carolina novelist Robert Morgan.**

"A Tisket... A Tasket, a Literary Basket" will take place beginning at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 23, at Asheboro Country Club.

The event is open to the public, but tickets are required at a cost of \$25. Tickets must be reserved in advance by April 16; reservations can be made at the Asheboro Public Library Circulation desk.

The evening will include a buffet dinner, music by guitarist Nick Wiley and a silent auction of gift baskets that include books autographed by authors including Michael Malone and Ann Ross — ideal gifts as Mother's and Father's days are around the corner.

Morgan is the author of the recently-published *Brave Enemies* and the New York Times bestseller *Gap Creek*, an Oprah Book Club selection as well as recipient of the Southern Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction in 2000.

A Hendersonville native and son of a farmer, Morgan writes about Appalachia, both past and present. A reviewer for the *New York Times Book*

Review wrote that his "stripped down and almost primitive sentences burn with the raw, lonesome pathos of Hank Williams's best songs."

Morgan writes both fiction and poetry, and has won numerous accolades over his 40-year career, including four National Endowment for the Arts grants, a Guggenheim fellowship and a North Carolina Award in Literature.

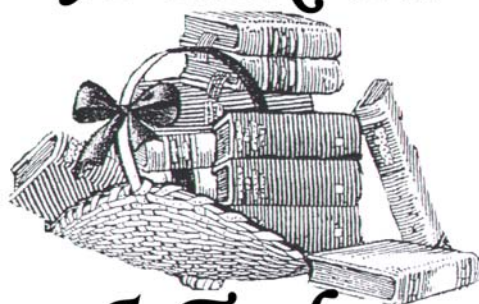
Now a professor in the Cornell University English department, Morgan wrote his first story when he was in sixth grade. At N.C. State University, he intended to focus on mathematics, but that changed when he took a writing class with Guy Owen.

"He encouraged me to write stories and poems about the place and people where I had grown up," Morgan says. "One day he brought one of my stories to class, an account of visiting a great-grandmother in an old house in the mountains, and announced he had wept when he read the story."

In the early part of his career, Morgan focused on poetry. He turned to fiction in 1980 and has since published a prolific array of poems, stories and novels.

During his appearance at "A Tisket... A Tasket," Morgan will read from his work and sign books.

A Tisket...



A Tasket, a literary basket

6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 23

Asheboro Country Club

Tickets \$25

*Advance tickets only,
available at Asheboro Public
Library, 318-6801*

Davis concert to swing a bit more

♣ Master guitarist Larry G. Davis is making some changes for the sixth annual Glenn Davis Memorial Concert.

Davis will continue to celebrate the songs his father, a renowned banjo player Glenn Davis, taught him, but he also intends to jazz things up a bit during this year's show, scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, at the Asheboro Public Library.

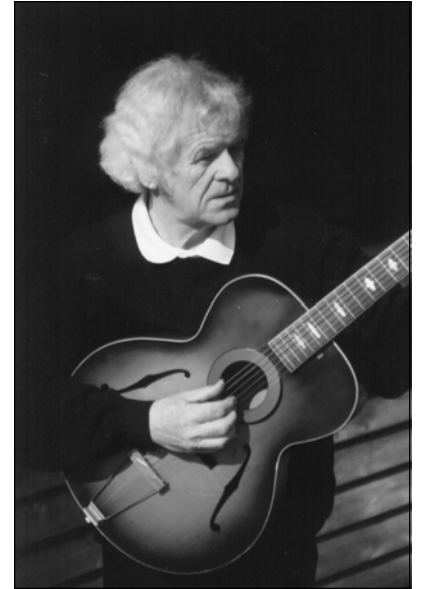
Sponsored by First Bank's North Asheboro branch, the concert is free and the public is invited.

Performing old time and western swing music with Davis will be Joe Hiatt, fiddle; Lawrence Prevette, bass; Woody Powers, banjo and vocals; and Will Scotten, vocals.

For some big band and swing, Davis will be



Glenn Davis



Larry G. Davis

joined by Jane Wichard on drums, Ed Seagraves on bass and Gary Hastings on cornet, trumpet and vocals. Hastings, who Davis says sings like Louis Armstrong, recently performed with the Guy Lombardo Orchestra at the Independence Ball during the President's inaugural.

Ragsdale to perform in cabaret-style concert



♣ Asheboro resident Lane Ragsdale will perform a New York-style cabaret show entitled "Love and Light, Lane: Melodies and Memories" at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 14th at the Asheboro Public Library.

The concert, sponsored by the Lane Ragsdale Friends of the Library, is free and the public is invited.

Ragsdale, travel industry manager for the North Carolina Zoological Park and a vocal student in the

New York City studio of renowned Metropolitan Opera soprano Dr. Patricia Craig, will share his very personal journey of growing up in Asheboro and the role music has played in his life through recollections and an eclectic blend of songs including "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "I'll Be Seeing You," "Send In the Clowns," "What Kind Of Fool Am I," "Those Magic Changes" and many other standards that relate in both comical and bittersweet ways to Ragsdale's life in his hometown.

He will be accompanied by internationally recognized cabaret artist Max Blizzard, who also has arranged the material Ragsdale will perform.

Teens can scope out career opportunities at job fair

♣ Area businesses and institutions will come together from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 9, at the Asheboro Public Library to help local teenagers plot their career paths.

Participants in the Friends of the Library's Teen Job/Career Fair, including Food Lion, Randolph Community College, Asheboro Rehabilitation Center, Randolph Mall, YMCA, Randolph Hospital, local restaurants and many more, will provide information



for potential jobseekers.

Career counselors will be on hand and refreshments will be provided.