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news

The Brilliance of Jane Austen

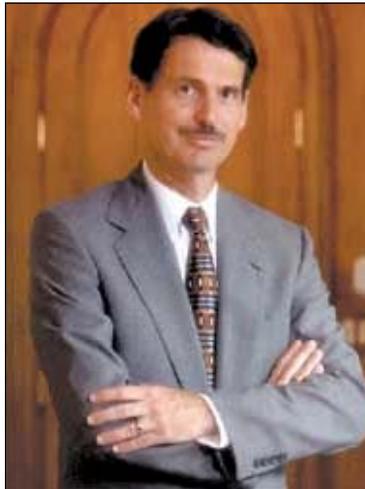
Friends to host popular lit prof Engel

♣ Known for bringing literature to life, Dr. Elliot Engel will explore “The Brilliance of Jane Austen” during a special Friends of the Library luncheon.

The luncheon will take place at noon Tuesday, April 24, at the Asheboro Country Club. Tickets cost \$20 and can be obtained at the Asheboro Public Library.

Engel lectures about literary figures, often in character as the writer about whom he’s talking. His performance as Charles Dickens elicited these remarks from Dickens’ great grandson Cedric Charles Dickens: “Dr. Engel revives the genius of my great-grandfather — and every other author he touches. Each program is brilliantly funny and full of fascinating information.”

In his lecture on Austen, Engel brings to life through anecdotes, analysis and large doses of humor



Dr. Elliot Engel will talk about Jane Austen during a Friends of the Library luncheon, noon Tuesday, April 24, at Asheboro Country Club.

the author of *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Emma*, *Mansfield Park* and *Persuasion*, whom many critics have called the first great female writer in English.

A Raleigh resident who has taught at North Carolina State University, Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Engel presents over 250 lectures a year on 50 literary topics to audiences ranging from adults to elementary schoolchildren. His presentations are available on tape and CD, and he leads tour groups on learning vacations.

He has written seven books including *A Dab of Dickens & A Touch of Twain*, which was release by Simon and Schuster in 2002, and in the last five years he has written three plays that have been produced.

An Indianapolis native, he holds masters and doctorate degrees from UCLA.

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— Cedric Charles Dickens, great grandson of Charles Dickens

Author-artist to kick off Nat. Lib.



♣ A brunch for children to inaugurate National Library Week will bring Greensboro art teacher Jaime (J.B.) Brown, author of *Angelo and the Master*, to town.

It will be a one-woman show for Brown, who will read her story, guide kids to create their own art and provide baked goodies for refreshments. The brunch will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 14, at the Asheboro library.

All children are invited. Anyone wishing to attend can sign up in the Children's Room or call 318-6804. All



Author and artist J.B. Brown and her children, Alexander and Peter, read *Angelo and the Master*.

children must be accompanied by an adult.

Brown taught art in the Greensboro school system for 21 years and has shown her artwork throughout the state in juried shows and private galleries.

In *Angelo and the Master*, she uses her words and artwork to tell the story of Angelo, a mouse who has a front row seat as Michelangelo creates the glorious ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

National Library Week begins Sunday, April 15 and runs through Saturday, April 21. Dating to 1958, it's an annual observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries around the county to celebrate the contributions of libraries and library staff in schools, campuses and communities nationwide.

Davis relocates concert to Sunset

♣ After seven years at the library, the Glenn Davis Memorial Concert featuring Larry G. Davis and friends moves to downtown Asheboro's Sunset Theatre.

The popular concert will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 10. It's free and the public is invited.

Larry Davis created the concert in 2000 to honor his late father, a celebrated banjo player whose music was recorded and preserved by the Smithsonian Institution.

The event has featured a mix of old time music of the type played by Glenn Davis and his fellow musicians, as well as jazz and western swing. This year's show will be equally eclectic, with Larry Davis on guitar, Vic Tell on bass, Gary Hastings on trumpet and vocals, Ben Hurley on vocals, Tommy Hyatt on banjo, Lawrence Prevett on bass and Jane Wichard on drums.

First Bank's North Asheboro branch is sponsor of the event.

Ragsdale & company return with new show

♣ The concept of "a cabaret" has caught on in Asheboro and at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 19, the Friends of the Library will present "An Evening With Lane Ragsdale: The World Goes Round" at the Asheboro library.

The show is free and the public is invited.

Fresh from performances in New York and Canada and joined by his musical arranger and



accompanist Max Blizzard, Lane will tell stories of his recent travels and of life in Asheboro, including having his identity stolen, while performing legendary torch songs like "I Wanna Be Around," "So In Love," "After You've Gone," "All Of Me," and the Liza Minnelli classic "The World Goes Round."

Brenda Pulliam will offer a reading and Blizzard will also perform a number.

Prepare to laugh, cry, and celebrate life with Lane and his music.