RANDOLPH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY Ready to



news

volume xxiii no. 6 • December 2015

randolphlibrary.org

New Civil War center seeks Randolph stories

Was your ancestor's farm a stop on the **Underground Railroad?**

Did your great, great grandfather hide out from the Home Guard in the hazy hollows of Purgatory Mountain?

If so, the North Carolina Civil War History Center (NCCWHC) wants your Randolph County story. Representatives of the center will be on hand at the Asheboro library from 6:30-9 p.m. Monday, January 25, as part of an effort to collect 100 stories about the Civil War era from each of the 100 counties.

Anyone with a story to tell can present it in writing, or relate it verbally, to center volunteers.



Jonathan Worth

The event coincides with the 150th anniversary of the 1865 inauguration of Jonathan Worth, North Carolina's only governor from Randolph County.

"Randolph County's role in the era was unique, and this is our chance to have those stories heard," says Asheboro City Manager John Ogburn, a member of the center's advisory board.

The NCCWHC is being

developed in Fayetteville on the site of the Confederate arsenal destroyed by U.S. troops under Gen. William T. Sherman. In the planning and fundraising stages now, the

Angel Matthews to debut Civil War novel at library

♣ Liberty resident and first-time author Angel Matthews will talk about her novel Charlotte Confederate Soldier at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 19, at the Asheboro library.



Angel Matthews

Matthews' appearance, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, is free and the public is invited.

A longtime history buff who, with her husband Grant, attends Civil War re-enactments in period civilian garb, Matthews spent a year researching and writing. "All of the history in the book is true," she says.

The novel concerns a young North Carolina woman whose opposition to slavery leads to a series of adventures, including a stint in the Confederate cavalry.

center's goal is to create a comprehensive portrait of North Carolina history that spans the Antebellum, Civil War and Reconstruction periods.

The center is affiliated with the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex, a branch of the North Carolina Division of History Museums.

Randleman building receives state award

The Randleman Public Library has been named a 2014-2015 Outstanding Remodeled Facility by the North Carolina Public Library Directors Association (NCPLDA). The library doubled in size when it relocated to the former site of the Richard Petty Museum at 142 W. Academy Street. The nomination noted that visits to the new library — which boasts all-new furniture, fixtures and state-of-the-art technology — increased 23 percent between February and July compared to the same period last year. Randolph County Public Library Director Ross Holt accepted the award on Randleman's behalf at the NCPLDA's fall meeting in Chapel Hill.



Archdale

336-431-3811 Fax 336-431-4619 10433 S. Main St. Mon-Thur 9-8; Fri 9-6; 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

John W. Clark

Tues, Wed 9-9

(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 9-7; Sat 9-1

Ramseur

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

Randleman

336-498-3141 Fax 336-498-1139 142 W. Academy St. Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 10-1

Seagrove

336-873-7521 530 Old 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

from the director

Ross A. Holt



Asheboro: ready for its close-up!

♣ In the late 1930s and early 1940s, citizens of Asheboro and other area communities could see themselves on the big screens at their local movie theaters.

A filmmaker from Lexington, H. Lee Waters, trained his 16mm camera on the everyday activities of people in 118 central North

Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia cities and towns, and made arrangements with theaters to show the resulting movies.

He produced 252 films, including at least ten short reels shot in Asheboro and two in Liberty. The Randolph County Public Library came into possession of 14 reels and turned them over to Duke University for preservation in 1991.

Duke was to create archival quality copies and provide the library with versions dubbed onto VHS videotapes. We circulated two compilations on VHS — "Asheboro in the Forties" and "Asheboro in the Movies" — for years, and still have a DVD transfer of "Asheboro in the Forties" available for checkout.

The collection took on new life recently when Duke's David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library digitized a number of the Waters films, including four made in Asheboro, and placed them online.

The films generated much discussion on the "I Grew Up in Asheboro, N.C." Facebook



Margaret Brown Bostic and Ruth McMasters, from one of H. Lee Waters's films made in Asheboro, ca. 1940.

page (the place to go for local nostalgia and reminiscences), and prompted us to create the Digital Randolph page on our website to feature all the Randolph County resources we have had digitized along with those made available by others, including Duke's H. Lee Waters films.

The Facebook discussion prompted another Waters film to surface on YouTube: a six minute portion of one of

the Asheboro films that features the African American community. This segment appears to be taken from one of the VHS tapes we circulated, and does not appear in the films digitized by Duke.

Whatever the origin, the film inspired Asheboro native, author and memoirist Thomas Rush to launch an effort to identify people who appeared in this short clip. Earlier this month, he screened the film frame-by-frame and invited community members to see who they could name.

Through the screening and other conversations, Rush has identified some 45 individuals so far.

Judging from the material we turned over in 1991 versus what's currently digitized, there are many more local riches to mine from the Waters films.

View the films digitized by Duke, along with the clip of Asheboro's African American community and the people identified by Thomas Rush, at www.randolphlibrary.org/digitalrandolph.htm.



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.

Kids: test your mettle

Beat the Clock; be a 'Survivor'

♣ Try your hand at a classic TV game show, challenge yourself to complete a scavenger hunt, jump into a life-size board game and more in January at the Asheboro library.

The events are free and school-age children are invited. Beat the Clock

Go all out to "Beat the Clock" at 4 p.m. Tuesday, January 12. Compete in a series of 60-second challenges to make or do something with common household items.

Maker Series: Craft Stick Creations

The monthly Maker Series will feature "Craft Stick Creations" at 4 p.m. Thursday, January 28. Use craft sticks, glue and imagination to see what you can create.



Survivor Scavenger Hunt

Compete in the "Survivor Scavenger Hunt" at 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 19. Complete games and puzzles to move through a series of challenges to discover an ultimate treasure.

Life-size Games

Play "Life-size Games" at 2 p.m. Wednesday, January 20. Put yourself in a board game: become a life-size gamepiece to see if you can win.

Classes to highlight library genealogy databases

Two free sessions in January will highlight Heritage Quest and Ancestry Library Edition, two online genealogical resources offered by the library.

Genealogy with Heritage Quest will take place from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, January 6, at the Asheboro library. Learn how to access census information, pension records and other key family history resources.

Genealogy with Ancestry Library Edition, will be offered from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, January 19. Learn how to get started on your family tree with census records, birth and death records, immigration records and more.

Both classes are free and the public is invited. Space is limited, so call 318-6803 to sign up for one or both.



RANDLEMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Call 498-3141 to sign up

January 6: We Get Ready for the Circus!* 3:30-4:30 p.m. Ages K-5th grade. Learn about the circus; read stories; play games; enjoy tasty snacks. Read to earn a

January 13: We Tackle Technology! 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Learn how to use the e-reader or tablet you received for Christmas. Admission is one canned food item.

free circus ticket!

January 13: We Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It **Snow!*** *3:30-5 p.m.* Ages K-5th grade. Read some "cool" books, play winter games, toss a few snowballs and enjoy an edible snowman craft. Admission is one canned food item.

January 20: We Make & Take DIY Tile Coasters.

3:30-5 p.m. Ages 16+. Learn how to make your own set of tile coasters. Admission is one canned food item.

January 27: We Build with Legos. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Ages 5 & up. Test your building skills with library Lego kits. Admission is one canned food item.

Discussions

Asheboro Reads: All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr, Tuesday, January 26.

Max and Imaginary Friends Children's Book Club: How to Scare the Pants Off Your Pets by Henry Winkler. At 3:30 p.m. Archdale: Monday, January 11; Asheboro: Wednesday, January 13; Randleman: Thursday, January 14. **Archdale Book Break:** Wish You Well by David Baldacci, 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 19.

TeenZone Talk

Asheboro library. Free; all teens are invited. **TeenZone Book** Discussion Group, 4 p.m. Thursday, January 7. Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs.

Introducing Grace Kirkland, 7 p.m. Thursday, January 14. Singer-songwriter; see page 4 for details.

TeenZone Video Game Night, 7 p.m. Thursday, January 21. Play popular Wii multiplayer games.

TeenZone Movie Night, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 28. Marvel's ANT-MAN (PG-13; teens 13 and up invited; popcorn served.

Liberty library introduces hands-on craft series

"Get Creative, Craft," a new hands -on series for children and adults age 12 and older, gets underway from 3:30 January 21; and Let's Get Organized, -4:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Liberty library. Projects include: Visual

Journals, January 7; Paint Chip Calendars, January 14; Adult Coloring, January 28. The sessions are free and the public is invited.

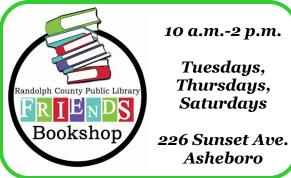
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To the Friends of the Library

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> In Honor of: Jean Harris By: Gene and Pat Holder Peggy G. Holt

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Teen singer-songwriter Gracie Kirkland to perform

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Meet Gracie Kirkland, singer/songwriter and gutarist, at 7 p.m. Thursday, January 14, at the Asheboro library.

Kirkland, a student at Southwestern Randolph High School who has been singing and playing acoustic guitar for five years, will perform her own indie/pop influenced tunes and some popular songs, and hold a Q&A with audience members.

Her performance is free; it's hosted by the TeenZone and sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

TeenZone