



Liberty food program wins state award

♣ The Liberty Public Library's "No School Break Without Food" initiative has received an Outstanding Library Programming Award from the North Carolina Public Library Directors Association (NCPLDA).

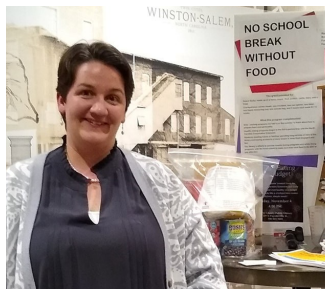
Liberty library manager Brenda Hornsby-Heindl received the award and presented a poster session at the group's annual meeting and banquet on December 1 in Winston-Salem.

With no summer lunches provided by area schools, Hornsby-Heindl applied for and received a \$22,000 grant from the Save the Children Foundation to address food insecurity among children in the community.

The grant established two food programs. One provided families who have school-aged children with a crockpot and five pre-packaged meals with non-perishable food items each week for twelve weeks, and recipes.

The other provided ingredients for "Snack Sacks" intended as a lunch replacement but not requiring heat or refrigeration. Volunteers assembled the Snack Sacks.

In all, 29 families with 110 children participated in the crockpot program, and some 1,400 Snack Sacks were distributed.



Brenda Hornsby-Heindl shares information about the "No School Break Without Food" at the NCPLDA meeting.

From Worth Farm to Center City Garden

Holt to trace evolution of 'the lawn of Asheboro'

♣ The history and genealogy of the Jonathan Worth farm in the middle of old Asheboro — soon to become the David and Pauline Jarrell Center City Garden arboretum — is the topic of a talk by Library Director Ross Holt, 6:30 p.m. Monday, January 23, at the Asheboro library.

The talk is free and the public is invited.



Jonathan Worth

Jonathan Worth, who would become Asheboro's leading citizen and serve as North Carolina governor, was 24 when in 1826 he purchased the 12 acres now bounded by Worth, Main, Academy and Cox streets.

The area, which remained undeveloped for much of the 19th century, would involve two other prominent Randolph County families — the Moffitts and the Walkers — before being acquired by Acme-McCrary Hosiery Mills founder D.B. "Doc" McCrary and his family in the 20th century.

Holt sifted through newspaper accounts, deeds and other records to uncover fascinating details about the property and surprising connections among the people associated with it. Owners of various parts of the site — including five Asheboro mayors — have represented each era of the city's development, from an agrarian economy through industrialization and modern manufacturing.

HPU prof to discuss Chinese New Year

Traditions and customs of Chinese New Year will be the focus of a talk by Dr. Daliang Wang, chair of World Languages and professor of Chinese at High Point University, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 19, at the Asheboro library. The most important Chinese holiday, the celebration marks the arrival of spring on the Chinese calendar. It is celebrated in Thailand, Singapore, Vietnam, Taiwan and the U.S. as well as in China. The talk is free and the public is invited.



Dr. Daliang Wang

Archdale

336-431-3811
Fax 336-431-4619
10433 S. Main St.
Mon-Thur 9-8;
Fri 9-6; Sat 9-1

Asheboro

336-318-6800
Fax 336-318-6823
201 Worth St.
Mon-Thur 9-9; Fri 9-6;
Sat 9-1

Randolph Room

336-318-6815
Mon-Fri 9-12:30; 1:30-5:30
Sat 9-12:30

Franklinville

336-685-3100
111 Sumner Place
Mon-Thur 10-6; Sun 1-5

Liberty

336-622-4605
Fax 336-622-2665
239 S. Fayetteville St.
Mon-Tues 9-7
Wed-Fri 9-5
Sat 9-3

Ramseur

336-824-2232
Fax 336-824-2232
1512 S. Main St.
Mon-Fri 9-6
Sat 9-1

Randleman

336-498-3141
Fax 336-498-1139
142 W. Academy St.
Mon-Fri 9-6;
Sat 9-1

Seagrove

336-873-7521
530 Old Plank Rd.
Tues-Fri 10-6; Sat 11-3

Extension Service

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

*from
the
director*

Ross A. Holt



Report focuses on child welfare

♣ **Many families with children in Randolph County are under a great deal of stress, but the community has the opportunities, ideas, and tools to address the situation.**

This is the conclusion of a recent report from the Institute of Family at the Children's Home Society for North Carolina. It was commissioned by the Randolph Partnership for Children and funded by the Randolph County Board of Commissioners.

Startling statistics sparked the study. From 2016 to 2021, the number of children in foster care in the county increased by 82 percent, and from 2017 to 2021, the cost of child welfare services spiked by 78 percent.

The report's authors analyzed county demographics and information provided by the Randolph County Department of Social Services. They talked to parents (termed caregivers in the study) and community leaders (called influencers). Interviewees weighed in on community assets and needs that, if addressed, would improve child welfare in the county.

Demographics showed that the area of highest need was a swath running from Asheboro northeast through Liberty, with lower median income and lower scores on a wellness index created for the study. The analysis showed that greater percentages of people of color live in areas with lower wellness scores. It also suggested that outcomes were worse in areas historically lacking in community investment.

Among the county's assets, both groups of interviewees cited a close-knit social

structure and bountiful peaceful space.

Caregivers also noted support for basic needs, such as programs offered by local agencies, and the support of families and friends. Influencers saw schools and community leadership as assets. Both groups found the accessibility of parks, churches, schools and support from family and friends as pluses.

Challenges identified by both groups included economic hardship and transportation. Influencers noted substance abuse treatment, access to quality services and education as ways to address problems, while caregivers desired affordable youth programs, family-friendly activities and support for parents.

The study also analyzed how the media reports on child welfare issues, suggesting that a focus on extreme cases inhibits awareness of underlying needs.

The report recommended several steps to reduce the number of children in foster care: enhancing relationships between caregivers and decision-makers; addressing economic hardship; including caregivers in decision-making processes; identifying how historical community investment patterns link to present conditions; prioritizing resources to areas with lower wellness scores; shifting investments "upstream" to prevent families from entering the child welfare system in the first place; and building community awareness about factors that overburden families, and how the community can help.

Read the full report at randolphlibrary.org/childwelfarereport.pdf.

Classes to cover 'tech savvy,' email

♣ **Free technology classes in January at the Asheboro library will help participants understand email, and become more tech savvy overall.**

In "Email Essentials," learn the basics of email in an easy-to-follow, one hour workshop, and create an email account at the end of the class. 3 p.m. Tuesday,

January 10, and 10:30 a.m. Monday, January 23.

In "Become More Tech Savvy," explore the most common technology topics, including the anatomy of a computer, email, WiFi, Internet and topics requested by participants. 11 a.m. Friday, January 13, and 2 p.m. Friday, January 27.

Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit

...and more activities at libraries around the county

♣ **Celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year — the Year of the Rabbit — with the Asheboro library Children's Room at 4:30 p.m. Friday, January 20.**

The walk-through event will highlight Chinese culture and history with activity stations and information booths. Craft a Chinese rattle drum, gift a red envelope to family and friends, and enjoy the colorful displays.

Best for ages 5 and up, but fun for the whole family.

TeenZone Mini Art Installation

Join Dave the Teen Librarian, Savvy B and Jessi B in the Asheboro library TeenZone at 4 p.m. Monday, January 30 to create a mini art installation that will be displayed at the library's front desk.

Mini canvases, art supplies and inspiration will be provided.

Art, nature, science at new time

There's a new time for the Asheboro library's Thursday art, nature and science events for children ages 7-12.

Activities now begin at 3:30 p.m. On January 12, it's Art Adventures featuring Picasso and Cubism. On January 19, learn cool facts about all kinds of birds with EcoExplore from the Greensboro Science Center. On a January 26 "Crafternoon,"

learn embroidery basics and create some fun designs.

Winter Reading for adults

The Ramseur and Randleman libraries are offering adult winter reading programs.

In Randleman, turn in a date due receipt for books you have read between January 1 and March 31. Each book read earns an entry into a drawing for one of four \$50 cash gift cards. The last day to turn in slips is April 7.

In Ramseur's Adult Reading Challenge, submit a bookmark for each book read in January to be eligible for prizes.

Book clubs for kids, teens

AsheboroTeenZone: BYO Book Club, 4 p.m. Monday, January 23. Talk about a book you're reading or a longtime favorite.

Asheboro Children's Room: Graphic Novel Book Club, 4 p.m. Friday, January 27. The topic for this month is survival stories. Best for ages 7 and up.

Liberty: Manga Meet Up at the Library, 1 p.m. Saturday, January 21. A fun afternoon of crafts, activities, treats and videos related to Manga and comic books. School-age.

Randleman: Teen Talk Book Club, 3:30 p.m. Friday, January 13. Bring a book you'd like to share with others. 6th-8th grades; call 336-498-3141 to sign up.



Book discussions

Asheboro Reads:

Hissing Cousins: the Untold Story of Eleanor and Alice Roosevelt Longworth by Marc Peyser, 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 31.

Archdale Book Break:

We Were the Lucky Ones by Georgia Hunter, 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 17.

Liberty Book Club: *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 19.

BYO book groups

Talk about books that you've read recently.

Archdale: Book Bites, 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 10.

Asheboro: Virtual Un-Book Club, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 26. Email mcarte@randolphlibrary.org for link.

Franklinville: Snippets Book Club, 12:30 p.m. Monday, January 23.

Liberty Readers Meet-Up, 1 p.m. Monday, January 30, Liberty Senior Center, 128 S. Fayetteville St.

Randleman Readers Recommend, 3:30 p.m. Friday, January 6.

Ramseur Book Club, 1 p.m. Tuesday, January 3.


Seagrove: Un-Book Club, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 19.

Asheboro library launches 'Virtual Un-Book Club'

Dislike assigned reading? Join the Asheboro library's "Virtual Un-Book Club" at 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month beginning January 26. Talk about up to two books

you have recently read.

Sign up at 336-318-6808 or mcarte@randolphlibrary.org. A link to the virtual discussion will be sent on the Tuesday before the meeting.



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

Mail to: Friends of the Library
P.O. Box 2806
Asheboro, NC 27204
Memberships are tax deductible

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Adult	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Family.....	\$30	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor.....	\$250
		<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime.....	\$500

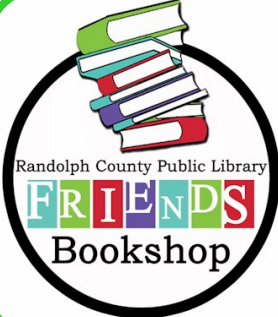
YES! I'd like to help: ____ Programs ____ Hospitality ____ Book Sales ____ Membership ____

Randolph County Public Libraries

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Asheboro, NC 27203

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10 a.m.-2 p.m.

***Tuesdays,
Thursdays,
Saturdays***

**226 Sunset Ave.
Asheboro**

Masks optional

memorials & donations

In Memory of: Lu Hayes
By: Little Gate Garden Club

In Memory of: Christine Moffit Kivett
By: Suzanne Tate

In Memory of: Gene McMasters
By: Elizabeth Provancha

In Memory of: Barbara P. Mills
By: Sam and Missy Rankin

In Memory of: Ranbir Singh
By: Little Gate Garden Club

To the Friends of the Library

In Memory of: Lu Hayes
By: Friends Bookshop Crew

Rhinoleap to revive Company K show

♣ **Company K is coming back to the Sunset Theatre.**

Rhinoleap Productions will revive the play *Company K: From Asheboro to the Fields of France*, February 2-5. Originally produced in 2018, the show commemorates the sacrifice of the local State Militia unit that fought during World War I.

Look for details in next month's newsletter. Tickets are available at rhinoleap.com.