



HVAC work continues at Asheboro library

♣ Heavy construction at the Asheboro library in the last two weeks in November was disruptive, but library users have not been deterred.

Despite the challenges, the library saw 20 percent more visits this November than in the same month last year.

Work to replace the heating and air conditioning got underway on November 18 with demolition of the old systems and placement of new units on the roof.

The work required some areas to be roped off for safety, and closure of the library two days during the Thanksgiving week.

With construction ongoing, intrepid staff and patient patrons are rolling with the disruptions. Temporary heat provided by the City of Asheboro has kept public spaces toasty warm.

Some further “beating and banging” and interior rerouting is expected as the new units are connected to existing ductwork. Once that is complete, the new system will be balanced and brought online.

Work is expected to be completed by January 12.



Looking like something you dive on a shipwreck in, the old air conditioning chiller leaves the Asheboro library. (Photo by Dave Bare)

Archdale launches healthy lifestyle series

♣ Start the new year off right by learning how to make healthier food choices that support your lifestyle goals.

The Archdale library will host a four-part Healthy Lifestyles series beginning with “Food and Your Health” at 2 p.m. Thursday, January 23, repeated at 6 p.m. the same day. Call the library at 336-431-3811 to sign up.



Sam Varner

The series will continue with “The Power of Movement,” 6 p.m. Thursday, February 13; “The Power of Sleep,” 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 25; and “Practicing Mindfulness,” 6 p.m. Thursday, April 24.

The classes, which are free and open to the public, will be led by Sam Varner, a Board-Certified Health and Wellness Coach.

In the Healthy Eating session, Varner will guide participants through the basics of balanced nutrition, meal planning and strategies for maintaining healthy eating habits. The class will provide practical tips and tools for those who want to boost energy, improve overall health, or simply make more mindful choices.

Varner is Wellness Administrator for Randolph County Government, which recently was ranked as the 17th healthiest workplace in the nation. He formerly was a strength and conditioning coach for the University of Utah and the United States Olympic Team.

Learn about estate planning in library workshop

♣ “Wills, Advanced Directives and Heir Property” is the topic of a workshop at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, January 16, at the Asheboro library.

Led by Legal Aid attorney Tiffany Smith, the class will cover requirements to make a will in North Carolina; living wills, powers of attorney and health care powers of

attorney; and what happens to property when there is no will and the laws of intestacy take over. Smith also will discuss heir property and family land.

Smith, an attorney in civil litigation for more than a decade, currently works with the Disaster Relief Project for Legal Aid of North Carolina.

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, 9-7, Tues 11-7,
Wed, 9-5, Thur 11-5
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



Large print makes the rounds

♣ **There's software out there that helps libraries maximize the use of their collections.**

Among some amazing other stuff, it analyzes use patterns, and alerts librarians to route material to the places where the items are most likely to get checked out.

For example, if paperbacks in the western genre are popular in Seagrove but not in Liberty, many of Liberty's westerns can be sent to Seagrove where, in theory, they will get more use.

The problem? This software is very expensive.

We decided to try a no-cost version of the concept using the knowledge and ingenuity of our staff. Large print books are among our most popular items; knowing this, we created a rotating collection from among each branch's large print collection to bring fresh titles, in addition to new ones, to all the libraries on a routine basis.

Staff at each library selected 20 large print books that are unique to their libraries, but for which checkouts have trailed off, to go into the rotating collection. The twenty books were temporarily assigned to the next library alphabetically (Archdale's books came to Asheboro, and so



There's no evidence left of the rotating collection of large print books that arrived recently at the Ramseur library.

on) for a six-week stay. After six weeks, the collections rotate to the next libraries alphabetically.

The rotating collections are put on high-profile display and provide browsers at each library with a fresh set of books to peruse, in addition to any new ones the library might purchase. Thus readers can find high-interest titles that they haven't read, without searching the catalog or requesting that anything be sent, all at their local library.

The experiment has been a huge success. At Asheboro, all but one of the Archdale books were checked out shortly after the first collection arrived.

As you can see from the accompanying photo, the collection that most recently rotated to Ramseur was gobbled up, says branch manager Sandy Jarrell, as soon as it arrived.

Unsung heroes of this project are our couriers, Kevin Blackmon and Philip Watlington, who must transport the collections between libraries, among their other delivery duties.

Look for the rotating collection at your local libraries, and look for the experiment to expand perhaps into more titles, and more types of books and other items.



Celebrate Year of Snake... with snakes

♣ Kids at the Asheboro and Archdale libraries can learn about snakes while ushering in the Year of the Snake with Lunar New Year celebrations.

The Asheboro library will host "Lunar New Year with the NC Zoo" at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 29. Get up close and personal with some reptile pals among the zoo's Animal Ambassadors.

'Winter Reading' returns to libraries ...and other activities around the county

♣ Liberty and Randleman libraries will hold "Winter Reading" programs for adults.

Randleman's program will run January 2-March 28. Register at the library; save your date-due slips for books as you read them. Turn in your slips by Friday, April 4; each slip gets you one entry into drawings for several small prizes and a grand prize of four \$25 gift cards. Anyone age 16 and up is invited to participate.

In Liberty, read at your own pace between January 2 and March 1, and get entered to win a prize.

Silent Book Club at Archdale

The Archdale library's new Silent Book Club, 10 a.m. Saturday, January 11, invites readers age 18 and up to bring their own books and read for an hour — no discussion involved! Hot tea and snacks provided. If it's a hit, the club will go monthly.

Book clubs for kids, teens

Liberty: Kids Club, 4 p.m. Tuesday, January 7. Crafts, snacks, activities and sharing about what you like to read.

Liberty: Manga Meet Up at the Library, 1 p.m. Saturday, January 18. Crafts, activities, treats and videos related to Manga and comic books; teens 11 and up.

Randleman: Teen Talk Book Club, 3:30

Archdale's "Lunar New Year Celebration: Year of the Snake" will take place at 4 p.m. Thursday, January 16, best for ages 5-12. Discover fascinating facts about snakes in North Carolina, learn how to identify them and explore their role in nature — and meet a real, live snake guest.

Both events are free and the public is invited.

p.m. Friday, January 17, 6th-8th graders. Bring a book to share.

Seagrove: Books and Banter, 4:30 p.m. Thursdays. Talk about what you're reading with other teens.

Recycled book craft

Give old books a new life at the Archdale library in "Recycled Book Club: Book Craft for Adults," 6 p.m. Thursday, January 9. Repurpose old books into personalized keepsake folders for storing photos, letters or special mementos, while making functional and beautiful art.

Books will be provided, but participants are welcome to bring their own.

Chats and Crafts

Work in a community of crafters.

Asheboro: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, January 8 and 22.

Franklinville: 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 22.

Ramseur: 1 p.m. Wednesday, January 15.

Randleman: 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 14 (call 336-431-3811 to sign up).

Choose 'menu' at TeenZone Bistro

The Asheboro library TeenZone Bistro is open every Monday at 4 p.m.; drop in and choose from a variety of activities. On the menu in January: board games, art cart, book club bites and DIY crafts.



Book discussions

Asheboro Reads,

Afternoon Edition: The Talented Mrs. Mandelbaum: The Rise and Fall of an American Organized Crime Boss by Margalit Fox, 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 28.

Archdale Book Break:

100 Years of Lenni and Margot by Marianne Cronin, 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 21.

Franklinville: Snippets

Book Club, 12:30 p.m. Monday, January 20 (offsite — contact the library for details).

Liberty Book Club:

Counting Miracles by Nicholas Sparks, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 16.

Liberty Readers Meet-Up:

The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife by Anna Johnston, 1 p.m. Monday, January 20, Liberty Senior Center.

BYO book groups

Talk about books that you've read recently.

Archdale: Book Bites,

2 p.m. Tuesday, January 14

Archdale: Silent Book Club.

10 a.m. Saturday, January 11.

Ramseur Page Turners,

2 p.m. Tuesday, January 7.

Randleman Readers

Recommend, 3:30 p.m. Friday, January 3.

Seagrove: Un-Book Club,


Books by Jodi Picoult, 6 p.m. Tuesday, January 28.

Ramseur library to offer crochet classes

Learn how to crochet, or brush up on your skills, in three crochet classes at the Ramseur library, 2 p.m. Tuesdays, January 14, 21 and 28. Supplies will be provided, and no previous experience is

necessary. The classes will be led by Meagen Arnett, an experienced crafter and seamstress.

Visit the library or call 336-824-2232 to sign up.



BE A FRIEND!
The Friends of the Randolph County Public Libraries is an amazing group of people just like you, who believe in, support and value making our library the very best.

Complete this form and mail with dues payment to: Friends of the Library, P.O. Box 2806 Asheboro, NC 27204. *Or scan the code to join online at randolphfriends.org*


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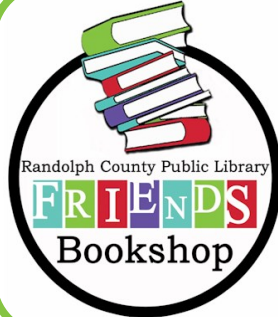
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 Asheboro, NC 27203

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**Tuesdays,
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**226 Sunset Ave.
Asheboro**

randolphfriends.org

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By: Ed and Nancy Bunch

To the Friends of the Library

To the Friends of the Library

By: Charles and Susan Swiers
 Gene and Pat Holder

In Honor of: Mayor David Smith

By Missy and Sam Rankin

Get set for Liberty gardening series

♣ **The Liberty library will offer an 8-month series of gardening workshops from 3-4 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, February 13 thru October 9.**

The classes will be led by Alamance County Master Gardeners with North Carolina Cooperative Extension, and cover topics such as pruning, landscaping, preparing a garden for planting, container gardening, shade gardens, fall vegetable gardening and more.

The classes are free but registration is required; visit <https://go.ncsu.edu/libertygardening> to sign up. The classes are best for adults and teens.

Look for more details in next month's newsletter.

Seed Savers Meet Up

Liberty also will host a Seed Savers Meetup at 11 a.m. Saturday, January 25. Learn about the Seed Library and how to save seeds, and bring seed catalogs to swap.