



Rhinoleap revives Company K play

♣ The soldiers of Randolph County's Company K will march once again to the sounds of the guns.

Rhinoleap Productions will revive its play *Company K: From Asheboro to the Fields of France*, February 2-5 at the historic Sunset Theatre in downtown Asheboro.

Tickets are \$10 to \$25 and can be purchased at rhinoleap.com or Brightside Gallery, 170 Worth Street.

The play, by Barbara Presnell, uses letters home and other documents to tell the story of Company K, which was the local unit of the State Militia (later the National Guard), from its formation in 1911 through World War I, when it was sent to France and into battle.



In the original *Company K* production, brothers Ben (Patrick Osteen) and Wright Dixon (Scott Thomas) share a rendition of the song "Roses of Picardy" on the eve of battle.

Photo by Andrea Akin

On September 29, 1918, the unit was in the vanguard of an attack that broke the German defensive line and hastened the end of the war, but cost it some 60 percent casualties, including 23 young men killed.

The play was conceived at the library and commissioned by the City of Asheboro to honor the 100th anniversary of the battle. It debuted at the Sunset on September 29, 2018, and was brought back by popular demand in August 2019. The production also traveled to Troy, North Carolina, for performances.

Many original cast and crew members will return for this production, which will be recorded for public television.

Sounds of Freedom

Vocalist, Duke prof Williams to perform spiritual, protest songs

♣ Hear "The Sounds of Freedom: From Slavery to Civil Rights" as vocalist and academic Mary D. Williams performs at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, February 16, at the Asheboro library.



Mary D. Williams

Ellis Williamson Photography

Williams, an adjunct professor at Duke University's Center for Documentary Studies, will sing spirituals and protest songs as a means of

exploring the role music played from enslavement through the Civil Rights movement. Her performance is free and the public is invited.

"There is something about music that seems to bring us closer to each other, often connecting us as a community," she says. "This is true today, and it is true historically, even through some of the most difficult periods of our past."

Williams' knowledge of the music and the culture from which it emerged is rooted in her scholarly work. Her goal is to share what she has learned, performing the best traditions of North Carolina while dissecting their subtleties in a manner accessible for a wide audience.

She has provided her voice to various media projects, including the movie *Blood Done Sign My Name*. She sang at the North Carolina State Capitol for the 150th anniversary celebration of the 13th Amendment, and has appeared on National Public Radio.

She holds a bachelors degree in American Studies and a masters in Folklore from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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



Donations fuel Mobile Library, more

♣ One of the great things about public libraries is that people often express their support without being asked.

The library recently has been the beneficiary of several unanticipated, “larger than usual” gifts. While no replacement for regular library funding, these donations provide key support for ongoing projects, unique initiatives and special collections.

Although their major, five-year gift that got the Mobile Library on road is complete, the **Acme-McCrory and Sapona Foundation** continues to support the project with funds for maintenance of the vehicle and fuel. The foundation also made a donation to the Friends of the Library for programming.

The Mobile Library also will be the beneficiary of a gift from **David Shackelford** in memory of his mom, Joan Shackelford. Joan retired from the library in 1991 after 12 years of service as a reference librarian, and was a tireless advocate for literacy. Two other gifts, one from the **Turn the World Wonderful Foundation** and another from Asheboro resident **Philip Looney**, will go to the Mobile Library as well.

The changes at the Ramseur library have generated three recent gifts, one from the **Ramseur Area Civitans Club** for amenities in the library’s new children’s space, and walk-in donations from **Bill Craven**, “for anything the library needs,” and **Chris Hussey**, in honor of librarians Sandy Jarrell, Tammy Crotts and Jana Richardson.

Randleman recently received a gift from the **Randleman Woman’s Club** upon the club’s dissolution in December. The



Deirdre Kraft of the Ramseur Area Civitans Club presents Library Manager Sandy Jarrell with a gift that will support the library’s newly-revamped children’s space.

donation will be used to refresh the adult non-fiction collection. The club also provided memorabilia from its years of service for the library to display.

The Woman’s Club was an early supporter of the Randleman library, and continued to do so over many years with regular contributions.

Randleman also has received a boost from several loyal patrons: **Weldon and Tami Hinshaw**, **Rita Minnick** and **Karen Amolsch**.

Back at the Asheboro library, the **Asheboro Public Library Foundation** has provided funding to revamp the TeenZone, study rooms and meeting rooms — more about that in a future newsletter.

And as ever, we’re grateful to the many people (seen monthly on the back page of this newsletter) who give in memory or in honor, and in doing so, add special meaning to items purchased for library collections.

Classes cover online safety, Android

♣ **Free February technology classes at the Asheboro library will cover financial security and Internet safety, and the Android operating system.**

In **Financial Security: Protect Yourself from Scams, Fraud and Identity Theft**, at 7 p.m. Thursday, February 9, Spencer Henderson, vice-president and Randleman city executive of the State Employees Credit Union, will point out red flags in online transactions and what to do if you are a victim of financial fraud.

Author Micki Bare to read from her book

♣ **Asheboro children's author Micki Bare will read from her middle-grades novel *The Society of Sentinelia* at 10 a.m. Saturday, February 11, at the Asheboro library.**

Ask questions, learn more about her characters and enjoy a guided nature craft inspired by her book. The event is free and fun for the family.



Micki Bare

Bare published three children's books focusing on the character Thurston T. Turtle before penning *Society of Sentinelia*, the first novel in a five-book fantasy series. The book recently received the American Association of University Women's NC Young People's Literature Award.

I Love Reading Month

February is "I Love Reading Month" at the Randleman library. Pick up a "Rate a Library Book" bookmark at the library and return it with a review to be posted on Facebook. Children ages 6-15 will earn a chance at a prize; those 16 and over will get an extra chance to win a prize in the Adult Winter Reading program.

Meanwhile, **Internet Safety: Avoiding Scams and Tricks** will focus on recognizing scams, fake emails and phishing attempts, at 4 p.m. Wednesday, February 15 and 11:30 a.m. Monday, February 27.

Interested in an alternative to the iPhone? In **Android Basics**, learn tips and tricks to help you get the most from your Android phone, and gain a better understanding of the Android ecosystem, at 3 p.m. Tuesday, February 7, and 11 a.m. Tuesday, February 21.

'Kindness Rocks' in Randleman

Teens at the Randleman library can paint Valentine's themed rocks in "Kindness Rocks," 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 14. Ages 11-15; call 336-498-3141 to sign up.

Birds and birding at Liberty

Learn about ornithology — the study of birds — with the Greensboro Science Center's EcoExplore program, 3:30 p.m. Friday February 17, at Liberty — just in time for the Great Backyard Bird Count.

Book clubs for kids, teens

AsheboroTeenZone: BYO Book Club, 4 p.m. Monday, February 13. Talk about a book you're reading or a longtime favorite.

Asheboro Children's Room: Graphic Novel Book Club, 4 p.m. Friday, February 17. The topic for this month is "Graphic Novels We Love the Most." Ages 7 and up.

Liberty: Manga Meet Up at the Library, 1 p.m. Saturday, February 18. 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, February 17. Bring a book you'd like to share with others. 6th-8th grades; call 336-498-3141 to sign up.

Share your thoughts about what you would want included in an expanded Liberty Public Library in two community input sessions, 6 p.m. Tuesday, February 21, and 1 p.m.

Saturday, February 25, at the library. Light refreshments will be provided.

Call 336-622-4605 or visit the library to register, or simply attend one of the meetings.



Book discussions

Asheboro Reads: Next Year in Havana by Chanel Cleeton, 2 p.m. Tuesday, February 28.

Archdale Book Break: The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich, 2 p.m. Tuesday, February 21.

Franklinville: Snippets Book Club, 12:30 p.m. Monday, February 13.

Liberty Book Club: The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, February 23.

BYO book groups

Talk about books that you've read recently.

Archdale: Book Bites, 2 p.m. Tuesday, February 14.

Asheboro: Virtual Un-Book Club, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, February 23. Email mcarter@randolphlibrary.org for link.

Liberty Readers Meet-Up, 1 p.m. Monday, February 27, Liberty Senior Center, 128 S. Fayetteville St.

Randleman Readers Recommend, 3:30 p.m. Friday, February 3.

Ramseur Book Club, 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 7.

Seagrove: Un-Book Club, 5 p.m. Thursday, February 23.

Liberty to host community input meeting on building

Experience the 'Black History Hall of Fame' countywide

♣ Young audiences can meet some of the most significant Black Americans in *Black History Hall of Fame*, an interactive show by Bright Star Theatre coming to each library in February.



Some of the people introduced in the fast-moving production will include Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Madame CJ Walker, Louis Armstrong, Rosa Parks, Thurgood Marshall, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Mae Jamison, among many others.

The shows, which are sponsored by the Friends of the

Library, will take place as follows:

- Archdale, 3:30 p.m. Friday, February 17;
- Asheboro, 10:30 a.m., Thursday, February 16;
- Franklinville, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 15;
- Liberty, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, February 16

- Ramseur, 10 a.m. Friday, February 17;
- Randleman, 3:30 p.m. Thursday, February 16;
- Seagrove, 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 15.

This project is supported by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

Randolph County Public Libraries

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Asheboro, NC 27203

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To the Randolph County Public Libraries:
By: Philip Looney

In Memory of: Hannah James
By: Richard and Lois Pavlovsky

In Memory of: Clarence Seabolt
By: Maple Springs Community Church

To the Friends of the Library

To the Friends of the Library
By: Pat and Gene Holder
William and Caywood Hendricks Foundation

Naomi Wise comes to Asheboro, Liberty

New Salem authors Hal and Eleanor Pugh will talk about their book Naomi Wise: Her Life, Death and Legend at the Asheboro library, 10 a.m. Saturday, February 4, and at the Liberty library, 1 p.m. Saturday, February 11. The heavily-researched book is the definitive account of the Naomi Wise legend, which is expressed in an internationally-known murder ballad. The Pughs' account brings to life the story of a young woman betrayed, and how her death gave way to the folk traditions by which she is remembered today.

