

Theatre troupe to bring Martin Luther King Jr., African American heroes, to life in two plays

 ★ Asheville's innovative Bright Star Touring Theatre will present two plays for children in recognition of Black History Month on Monday, February 27, at the Asheboro library.

The group will stage *Meet Dr. King* at 10:30 a.m. for children pre -school age and older; and *Black History Heroes, Soldiers and Spies* at 4 p.m. for kids third grade and older. The performances, sponsored by the Friends of the

Library, are free and the public is invited.

Meet Dr. King celebrates the life and work of Martin Luther King Jr. in an accessible and easy-to-follow story featuring key moments in King's life, from his childhood in Atlanta and the important lessons passed down by his father, to some of his greatest moments as an inspiring leader.



Bright Star Touring Theatre actors perform a scene from Meet Dr. King.

Black History Heroes, Soldiers and Spies highlights the work of the Buffalo Soldiers, including Col. Charles Young, as they explore and settle the American West; the Tuskegee Airmen as they take flight to help win World War II; and spies such as Mary Elizabeth Bowser, who worked for the Union during the Civil War.

The Bright Star Touring Theatre serves nearly 1,500 audiences each year in schools, theaters, libraries, museums and

other venues across the country, offering a wide range of curriculum-based plays and programs. The troupe performs regularly at the National Theatre in Washington, DC, and has taken productions to Russia and Germany.

Now in its 14th year, the company is based in Arden, NC, near Asheville.

Friends to host Trivia Night at Four Saints

♣ Test your knowledge of books, movies, music and local history at the Friends of the Library Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 4, at Four Saints Brewing Company.

Join Trivia Master Rich Powell for an evening of general knowledge trivia. The winning team will have bragging rights and team members' names will be added to the Friends of the Library Trivia Plaque.

Tickets are \$25 per person, and will go on sale in March at the Asheboro library and the Friends of the Library Bookshop. Food is included in the cost of admission. Proceeds support Friends projects including Books for Babies, children's activities in the library, and literacy.



INSIDE! 'War Zone: WWII off the NC Coast' • First Ladies' Fashions • 'Food, Food, Food (and Tea)' • Dr. Seuss birthday celebrations • Dr. Perko on brain health & wellness • and much more!

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-Tues 9-8 Wed-Fri 9-6; Sat 9-5

John W. Clark

(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 An amazing new reading resource for children pre-K through 4th grade launched on February 1: the NC KIDS **Digital Library.**

NC KIDS makes an initial collection of over 3,700 downloadable ebooks, audiobooks and streaming videos available to anyone with current budget year, and the state's 81 a library card from a North Carolina public library (or a student ID, for public school students participating in our REAL2 initiative and similar programs around the state).

Access is available 24/7 via our website, www.randolphlibrary.org or directly from the NC KIDS site, https://nckids.overdrive. com, or through the free Overdrive app available from your app store.

Overdrive, the platform that powers NC KIDS, is the same one we use for our Digital Depot ebooks. So although the collections are separate, they will behave essentially the same way.

The collection includes 3,029 ebooks, 689 audiobooks and 37 streaming videos. The ebooks include many designed for reading along or reading and listening.

Readers can borrower up to five NC KIDS books at a time. Most of the titles check out to one user at a time, like traditional library books and the Digital Depot ebooks, but about 300 are available to all users anytime.

NC KIDS is an initiative of the North Carolina Public Library Directors Association (NCPLDA), with support from the State Library of North Carolina. The North Carolina General Assembly provided funding new material to ensure that the collection to the State Library for content in the



public library systems are chipping in to cover the cost of the OverDrive platform.

NC KIDS is the first statewide consortium of its type in the nation. Its goal is to provide children in the early-learning age range with more reading options, so they are better equipped to meet the state goal of grade-level reading by third grade.

Two of North Carolina's library directors deserve a special shout-out for the creation of NC KIDS: Jennifer Sackett of the Lincoln County Public Library; and Ruth Ann Copley of the Davidson County Public Library.

Jennifer, as chair of the NCPLDA Legislative Committee, shepherded the project through the General Assembly. Ruth Ann, prime mover of several statewide electronic resource initiatives, negotiated both the concept and the nuts and bolts with Overdrive.

State Librarian Cal Shepard also deserves a nod: with Jennifer and Ruth Ann, she helped develop NC KIDS, and the State Library is providing federal Library Services and Technology Act funding to further develop the collection.

More titles will be added soon, and libraries will continue providing funding for remains current.



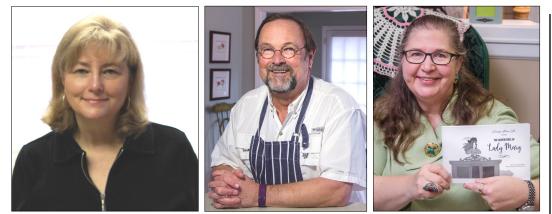
The Randolph County Public Library NEWS is published monthly by the Asheboro Randolph County Public Library and the Friends of the Library. To subscribe, join the Friends by returning the membership application on page 4.

Ross A. Holt, Director • Linda Covington, President, Friends of the Library • Printing by Hunsucker Printing Co.



Ross A. Holt

The amazing NC KIDS



Authors Glenda Cook, Richard Garkalns and Mary Murkin

Local authors to talk food and tea

"Food, Food, Food (and Tea)" will be gourmet delights.

the topic as local writers convene in a Friends of the Library Author Talk at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 16, a the Asheboro library.

The event is free and the public is invited.

Featured authors are Glenda Cook, Richard Garkalns and Mary Murkin.

Cook is author of *Gracious Goodness*, a cookbook of the very best recipes she has collected and cooked over the past 38 years, adapting some timeless classics and

Garkalns is a food columnist and blogger who pens the weekly Recipes from Richard column in *The Courier-Tribune*. He professes a passion for Southern Living

recipes. Murkin and illustrator Bridgett McPherson authored the recentlypublished children's book *The Adventures of Lady Mary*, a swashbuckling adventure that incorporates Murkin's love and knowledge of the finest teas from around the world. She is founder and CEO of Carriage House Tea in Asheboro.

the revolution in

Wellness expert to urge brain health

Mike Perko

 "It's All in Your Head: Brain Health and Wellness" is the topic of a talk by Dr. Mike Perko at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 20, at the Asheboro library.

Perko's talk, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, is free and the public is invited.

Perko, a nationally-recognized wellness expert, says the human brain is a lifelong work in progress, and the saying "use it or lose it" has never been more accurate.



neuroplasticity (the ability of the brain to form new connections and reorganize itself), consider the effectiveness of brain games and discuss strategies for incorporating brain health into daily life.
Perko is a professor of Public Health ucation at UNC-Greensboro. He holds a

In his talk, he will explore

Education at UNC-Greensboro. He holds a Ph.D. in health education and promotion from the University of Alabama.

Motion-triggered cameras for anyone participating in the North Carolina's Candid Critters wildlife study are expected to be available for check out in late February.

Book discussions

Asheboro Reads: Tiny Little Thing by Beatriz Williams, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 28. **Book Break (Archdale):** Come Rain or Come Shine by Jan Karon, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 21. Ladies Book Club (Randleman): Secrets of a Charmed Life by Susan Meissner, 3 p.m. (note the time change) Tuesday, March 7. Call 336-498-3141 to sign up. **Max and Imaginary Friends Children's Book Club:** Asheboro: Gully's Travels, 3:30 p.m. Wednesday,

March 15; *Randleman:* The life of Milton Bradley, 4 p.m. Thursday, March 16.

Genealogy help

The Randolph Room's genealogy workshop series wraps up with **Those Elusive Females**, 2-4 p.m. Saturday, March 11. Learn how to trace maternal lines, find clues to maiden and married names, and gain insight on what types records have family history information about women.

The workshop is free and the public is invited.

Author Willis visits

Just in at press time: author Lynn Chandler Willis will debut her new mystery novel, *Tell Me No Lies*, at 3:30 pm. Wednesday, March 1, at the Randleman library.

Her appearance is free and the public is invited.

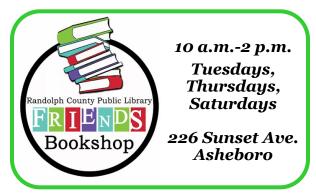
Participants can check out the cameras for three-week deployments, then upload the photographs.

To join the project, sign up at NCCandidCritters.org.

Randolph County Public Library FRIENDS YES! I'd like to become a Friend and support the wonderful programs sponsored by the Friends each year.	NAMEADDRESS
Mail to: Friends of the Library P.O. Box 2806 Asheboro, NC 27204 Memberships are tax deductible YES! I'd	□ Jr. Friend \$5 □ Patron \$100 □ Adult \$15 □ Benefactor \$250 □ Family \$25 □ Lifetime \$500

Randolph County Public Library 201 Worth Street Asheboro, NC 27203

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> In Honor of: Sarah Johnson By: Susan Coltrane

In Honor of: Jonna Libbert By: Ralph and Naomi Kilpatrick



FAMILY FILM NIGHTS 7 p.m. Fridays • Free Refreshments Provided February 24: Max March 3: March of the Penguins

Save the dates!



Food writer, commentator BOB GARNER 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20 Sunset Theatre

Novelist JILL McCORKLE 7 p.m. Thursday, May 11 Sunset Theatre



Downloadable ebooks, audiobooks and streaming video for children preschool through 4th grade!

Visit www.randolphlibrary.org or https://nckids.overdrive.com, or download the OVERDRIVE app. Login with your library card or student ID and PIN.

Find out more on page 2



War Zone!

Researcher Kevin P. Duffus tracks WWII U-boat war off NC's Outer Banks

✤ During World War II, an epic battle raged off the North Carolina coast as German submarines stalked merchant shipping, Allied navies hunted the U-boats, and lifesaving crews put to sea to rescue survivors.

Award-winning author, researcher and filmmaker Kevin P. Duffus will talk about this confrontation in "War Zone! World War II Off the North Carolina's Outer Banks," 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 9, at the Asheboro library.

Duffus's appearance, sponsored by the library's Robert C. Taylor, Jr., Memorial World War II Collection, is free and

the public is invited.



Duffus will explore six months in 1942, when 65 U-boats wreaked havoc on merchant shipping along the eastern seaboard, often in view of coastal communities — with the most intense action taking place off North Carolina.

Kevin P. Duffus

For his talk, Duffus compiles a stunning collection of eyewitness stories of

merchant sailors, Coast Guard recruits and coastal residents who survived the battles. He recounts the U.S. Navy's response to the attacks, and separates fact from fiction in legends that have grown around the events.



The merchant ship S.S. Dixie Arrow sinks after being torpedoed by German submarine U-71 near Ocracoke Island on March 26, 1942. [National Archives]

Duffus, who lives in Wanyesville, has received a Peabody Award and an Edward R. Murrow Award among other honors. His research has led to the re-discovery of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse's Fresnel lens and to new understandings of the pirate Blackbeard and his crew — as well as to the discovery of Blackbeard's treasure.

Author Dunlap explores First Ladies' fashions

♣ From the beginning, Americans have paid close attention to how their First Ladies dress, and have expressed opinions about these clothing choices.

Many women have copied a First Lady's style, while others have wondered about possible political statements behind the choice of colors, style and designer.

In a lively discussion and slide show entitled "First Ladies and the Politics of Fashion,"

6:30 p.m. Monday, March 27, at the Asheboro library, author Annette B. Dunlap will talk about the evolution of First Ladies' fashion, including the impact fashion had on their public image and what their wardrobes selections revealed about their time periods.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Dunlap's appearance is free and the public is invited.

Dunlap, who delivered this talk recently at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, is author of Frank: The Story of Frances Folsom Cleveland, America's Youngest First Lady — the only complete biography of this historical figure — and The Gambler's Daughter: A Personal and Social History.

Most recently, she published *Charles Gates Dawes: A Life*, a biography of Calvin Coolidge's vice president. Dunlap resides in Cumberland County.



Annette B. Dunlap

Libraries celebrate Dr. Suess

...and more events for children, teens and adults around the county in March

✤ Join the celebration of Dr. Seuss's 113th birthday at three libraries in March.

Asheboro and Archdale will host birthday parties on the beloved author's actual birthday, March 2, while Randleman will wait a week.

At Randleman, "Celebrate Seuss with Steve Somers" at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 9, as the popular educator and entertainer also known as "The Amazing Teacher" presents a fast-paced,

high energy show with amazing tricks, a silly puppet, music and tons of audience participation.

At Asheboro, it's "Celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday at the Library," 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 2, with stories, games crafts and treats for all ages.

In Archdale, "It's Party Time" at 3 p.m. Thursday, March 2, as children and families are invited to fête the good doctor with stories, games and refreshments.

The events are free and all children and their families are invited. Meanwhile....

ASHEBORO

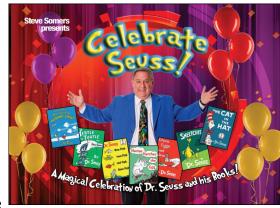
Bright Star Touring Theatre, *Monday, February 27*. Two plays in celebration of Black History Month: *Meet Dr. King*, 10:30 a.m.; *Black History Heroes, Soldiers and Spies*, 4 p.m. See front page for details.

Celebrate Dr. Seuss, 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 2, all ages. **Homeschool Meet & Greet**, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 7. Join staff from the NC Zoo — and some of their animals — for "Amazing Animal Adaptations." The public is invited.

P.A.L. (Play and Learn) Club, *10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 8, ages 0-5 and parents/caregivers.* Interactive stories, music and crafts for St. Patrick's Day.

Mystery Box, 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, ages 7-12. Search for clues, crack some codes, unravel some riddles and claim a prize.

Maker Series, 4 p.m. Thursday, March 23, ages 7-12. Handpowered propeller toy.



"Celebrate Seuss" with Steve Somers, The Amazing Teacher, 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 9 at the Randleman library.

Family Movie, 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 29. Moana. LIBERTY

Get Creative, 3:30 p.m. Thursdays. Crafts for teens and adults. March 2: Celtic paper design. March 9: Plastic Flower Bottle. March 16: St. Patrick's Day Pin. March 23: Spring Wreath. March 30: Coloring for Adults. Culinary Kids: How Does a Garden Grow? 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays March 14 and 28. Plant seeds, observe their

progress and prepare to transplant them.

RANDLEMAN

*Call 431-3811 to sign up.

DIY Wine Cork Keychain*, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 2. Ages 16 and up. Use wine bottle corks to make library-themed charms.

LEGO Robotics*, 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays March 7, 14 and 21. Ages 3rd-8th grades. Build LEGO projects with WeDo2 kits; create program strings on iPads and bring the projects to life.

Celebrate Seuss with Steve Somers, 3:30 p,.m. Thursday, March 9. All ages.

P.A.L. (Play and Learn) Club, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 16, ages 0-5. Educational and interactive Smart board activities, stories, music and crafts.

Big & Little: Decorating Easter Eggs*, 3:30-4:30 p.m. *Thursday, March 23. Ages K-5th grade.* Caregivers and up to two children each can explore new ways to decorate Easter eggs.

Tweens and Teens DIY Wine Cork Keychain*, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28. Ages 6th-12th grades. Make DC Comics-themed charms and a keychain.

LEGO Time! 3:30-4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 30. Ages 3 & up. Mega blocks for younger kids, Duplo blocks or kits for older ones!

WEEKLY STORYTIMES

Lapsit/baby, toddler, preschool and family storytimes are offered weekly. Visit **www.randolphlibrary.org/storytimes** for schedules or drop by your local library.



Thursdays at the Asheboro library. **Video Game Club:** 4 *p.m. March 9.* Join in an afternoon of video game fun. **Build a Wooden Automaton:** 4 *p.m. March 16.* Build a hand-crafted automaton and explore moving machines in this team event. **Asheboro Jam Club:** 5 *p.m. March 23.* Bring an instrument and make some music! All skill levels welcome. **Magazine Collage Art:** 4 *p.m. March 30.* Take scissors and old magazines, make a piece of collage art to display in the library.