



Sunset Series to feature Temple Grandin

♣ If you've enjoyed a hamburger, you've likely been a recipient of Dr. Temple Grandin's genius: she designed today's animal handling systems used by suppliers of the world's largest food companies.

Grandin's autism gifted her with a unique method of processing information. She calls it "thinking in pictures."

The ability to see things differently shows that "Great Minds Are Not All the Same," the title of Grandin's talk during a Friends of the Library Sunset Signature Series event, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14, in downtown Asheboro's historic Sunset Theatre, 234 Sunset Avenue. A meet-and-greet and book signing will follow.

Admission is free but tickets are "sold out" as of this writing; a waiting list is available at tinyurl.com/tg31426.

Grandin used her unique perspective to understand how animals move through livestock handling systems. During her talk, she'll speak candidly about how her brain works—and how openness to different types of thinking and approaches can change lives and systems for the better.

Grandin, who earned a Ph.D., went from being a nonverbal two-year-old with severe autism to the adult woman who changed the way cattle were moved and handled. She's now the subject of two films: HBO/Max's biopic "Temple Grandin" (2010) with Claire Danes in the title role, and "An Open Door" (2025), which recently began streaming globally on Amazon Prime, Apple TV and Kanopy.



Dr. Temple Grandin

Her systems have been used with more than half of the cattle in the United States. Facilities designed by Grandin are located in the United States and countries across the globe. Her work hasn't stopped there. Today, at age 78, Grandin serves as a professor of animal science at Colorado State University. She has authored five *New York Times* best-selling books, and *Time* magazine named her one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World in 2010.

She speaks frequently to groups and the media as an advocate for animal welfare, autism and seeing things differently.

While visiting Randolph County, Grandin also will address the staff of the North Carolina Zoo in a private event. She will speak at a ticketed event on March 13, 2026, at the Randolph County Agricultural Center in coordination with the Randolph Cooperative Extension (this event is sold out).

The Sunset Series celebrates art and ideas by bringing world-class speakers and performers to the heart of Asheboro. The program is made possible through the support of the Heart of North Carolina Visitors Bureau, the City of Asheboro, and the Friends of the Randolph County Public Libraries.

Future Sunset Series events include the following:

- **Col. Walter Joseph Marm, Jr.**, Medal of Honor recipient, Memorial Day weekend event, 7:30 Saturday, May 23, 2026;
- **Elizabeth Hudson**, *Our State* Editor, "Full Circle," 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25, 2026.



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

Sunset Series success

♣ **Free tickets for Dr. Temple Grandin's Friends of the Library Sunset Signature appearance "sold out" in a matter of hours.**

And there are 171 people on the waiting list as of this writing.

The interest in Grandin's visit is yet another success for the Sunset Series, which was initiated in 2018 by the Heart of North Carolina Visitors Bureau, the City of Asheboro and the Friends of the Library.

The series achieves the sponsors' goals: for Heart of North Carolina, to bring outside attention and visitation to Asheboro and Randolph County; for the city, to showcase downtown Asheboro and the historic theatre; and for the Friends, to offer the community extraordinary cultural experiences.

The Heart of North Carolina has provided funding and marketing; the city has provided funding and use of the theatre, and the Friends have done the often complex logistics and legwork to secure the presenters and coordinate the events.

The series was a success out of the gate, with literary lecturer Dr. Elliot Engel nearly filling the house, and Asheville street musician Abby the Spoon Lady at capacity with over 100 people turned away.

An unsung hero of the series is the city's Cultural Services Facility Manager Taylor Crawford, who coordinates use of the theatre and, with her crew, sees that each event runs smoothly.

With Medal of Honor recipient Col. Joe Marm and *Our State* Editor Elizabeth Hudson coming up in 2025-2026, and bright ideas on the table for 2026 and after, look for more enriching Sunset Series experiences.

The Friends of the Library Sunset Signature Series

2018

Dr. Elliot Engel, literary lecturer
Abby the Spoon Lady, street musician
Holly George-Warren, author
Kevin Maurer, war correspondent

2019

We Are Charleston authors Herb Frazier, Bernard E. Powers and Marjorie Wentworth
Jim Avett, musician
Jerry Bledsoe, author
Eric Montross, basketball player

2020

Elizabeth Smart, author, child safety advocate

2021

Ken Jennings, *Jeopardy!* GOAT
Dewey and Leslie Brown, musicians

2022

Robert Burke Warren, author and musician

2023

Stephanie Quayle, musician
Judith Turner-Yamamoto, author
Kyle Petty, NASCAR driver and musician
Company K film premier

2024

Rich Powell, graphic artist

2025

Mark Mathabane, author
Southbound 49, musical group

2025-2026

Derek Hinkey, actor
Dr. Temple Grandin, author, autism advocate and animal scientist
Col. Joseph Marm, Medal of Honor recipient
Elizabeth Hudson, *Our State* editor



Learn apple-grafting at libraries

♣ **Learn how to graft fruit trees in classes at the Asheboro and Randleman libraries in March — and take home two apple tree grafts.**

The classes will be led by Cody Craddock and Sophie Farlow of North Carolina Cooperative Extension.

Randleman's class will take place from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 17. Asheboro's is set for 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 25.

Each class costs \$25, and space is limited.

Register for Randleman's class at tinyurl.com/apptree1.

Register for Asheboro's class at tinyurl.com/apptree2.

During the class, Craddock will discuss why we graft, different types of grafting, and how plants heal. He also will demonstrate one of the most common grafts mastered by beginners.

Farlow will demonstrate how to properly graft in a hands-on activity using candy as a substitute for a tree; participants will learn the parts of a tree and where cuts are to be made on an apple tree.

Then Craddock will return to guide participants through grafting two trees that they can take home with instructions for care of the trees.

Asheboro to offer cross-stitching ...and other activities around the county

♣ **Cross-stitch is an art form using needle and thread to make Xs on fabric, which in turn creates a pixelated picture.**

In "Cross-Stitch: The Original Pixel Art," learn how to create a picture from a fun and easy pattern. The class, led by Head of Adult Services Meghan Carter, will take place at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, at the Asheboro library.

Space is limited, so registration is required; call 336-318-6803.

No prior knowledge of cross-stitch is required. Participants get to pick out a fun and easy pattern to make, and will be able to take it home.

Carter has been cross-stitching for 25 years, since she first picked up a floral cross-stitch kit in middle school. She occasionally submits her cross-stitch art to the North Carolina State Fair, where she has won a blue ribbon for an Art Nouveau peacock stitched on fabric that was 22 holes per inch, 17" wide and 12" tall.

Decorative mosaics

Create "Decorative Mosaics" for your home or garden using broken dishes, glass scraps, shells and beads at the Franklinville and Seagrove libraries. Seagrove: 1 p.m. Saturday, March 14 (call 336-873-7521 to register); Franklinville, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 15 (336-685-3100).

Healthy Kitchen, Healthy You

Transform your kitchen with simple, realistic ways to make it a place that supports better eating, increased energy and overall well-being in "Healthy Kitchen, Healthy You," 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 19, at the Asheboro library, with nutritionist Dayana Wagemus.

Water quality? Ask bugs!

Ramseur will host Katrina Meeks of Stormwater SMART for "Water Quality? Ask the Bugs," 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26. Use a hands-on stream model to find out how bugs help answer questions about water quality and biodiversity within the stream.



Book discussions

Asheboro Reads: *Brave the Wild River: The Untold Story of Two Women Who Mapped the Botany of the Grand Canyon* by Melissa Sevigny, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 31.

Archdale Book Break: *Banyon Moon* by Thao Thai, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 17.

Franklinville: Snippets Book Club. Discuss articles from *The Sun* magazine, 12:30 p.m. Monday, March 16.

Liberty Afternoon Book Club: *Daughters of Green Mountain Gap* by Teri M. Brown, 1 p.m. Monday, March 16.

Liberty Evening Book Club: *The Devil's Done Come Back* by Ed Southern, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 19.

BYO book groups

Talk about books that you've read recently.

Archdale, Book Bites, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 10.

Ramseur Page Turners, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 3.

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

Randleman Teen Talk Book Club, 3:30 p.m. Friday, March 27.

Seagrove, Un-Book Club, 4 p.m. Friday, March 27.

Talk to focus on women tech pioneers

Learn about "Women Who Shaped the Technology We Use Every Day" with Digital Services Librarian Harris Mason, 6 p.m. Thursday, March 26, at the Asheboro library. The talk will focus on

the stories, history and real-world impact of pioneers like Ada Lovelace, Grace Hopper and Hedy Lamar in an engaging and accessible look at women in technology.

BUT WAIT THERE'S MORE!

Archdale launches 'Fun Friday'

Children of all ages are invited to "Fun Friday" at the Archdale library, 10:30 a.m. on the fourth Friday of each month beginning March 27. Each session includes a storytime, a craft and an engaging activity, with a different theme each month.

Peep My House!

Make a cute and delicious house diorama for your Peeps at the Liberty library, and earn a chance to win a Peeps-themed prize. Visit the library between March 11 and March 19 to register and pick up your Peeps; create a shoe-box diorama and return it by March 27. Voting for Best Diorama starts March 31.

Chickens with 4-H

The Liberty library will host "Chickens with 4-H," a hands-on program with Allison Walker of North Carolina Cooperative Extension and 4-H at 3 p.m. Thursday, March 12. Learn about the life cycle of a chicken and meet some baby chicks. Call 336-622-4605 to sign up. Best for age 6 and up.

Fitness author at Asheboro

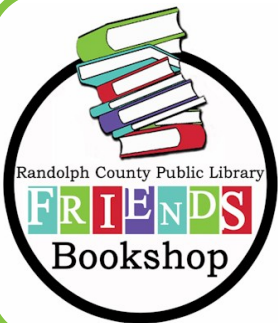
Fat to Fit: My Health Journey author Rita Honeycutt will talk about her book at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at the Asheboro library. Honeycutt will share her journey, covering challenges, mindset shifts, and the steps that helped her reclaim her health.

Randolph County Public Libraries

201 Worth Street
Asheboro, NC 27203

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10 a.m. -2 p.m.

**Tuesdays,
Thursdays and
Saturdays**

**226 Sunset Ave.
Asheboro**

randolphfriends.org

memorials & donations

In Memory of: Jerry Carroll Bledsoe
By: Alice and Rusty Hammond

In Memory of: Peggy Bossong
By: Sorosis Club

In Memory of: Rusty Hammond
Asheboro Public Library Foundation, Inc.
Martha Hammond Harvey

Rusty Hammond

We remember L.T. (Rusty) Hammond, who passed away on January 27. Rusty was an avid library user, former library volunteer, and a mainstay volunteer at the Friends of the Library Bookshop.

In Memory of: Brenda Pickel
Curt O'Briant and Ellen Byrum

To the Friends of the Library

In Honor of: Hope Haywood
By: Elizabeth Provancha

In Honor of: David Allen
By: Elizabeth Provancha

To the Friends of the Library
By: Janet and David Jones
Claude Holder

Try a quill pen

♣ **Try your hand at writing with a quill pen, and make a blank book with Randolph Room librarian Joanna Roberts.**

Roberts will offer "Book Making and Quill Pen Writing" twice: 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 13, and 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 17. She will talk about how the pens were made, and how simple blank books were constructed. Call 336-318-6815 to sign up.