



Teen tutor project returns to Asheboro library

♣ Teens from Asheboro High School have returned to the Asheboro library to tutor kids in grades K-5 from 4-5 p.m. Tuesday afternoons.

The volunteer-based, teen-led organization L.E.A.D. (Library Education and After School Development) is providing the free tutoring.

Families can sign up their child for tutoring with a teen, and provide information about the subjects with which their children need assistance, by visiting the Asheboro library Children’s Room or calling 336-318-6804.

Children are paired with teens to work on their homework and review basic concepts during fun games like



Teens work with younger kids during a tutoring day.

Grade-school Jeopardy.

During the hour, teens will help their buddies pick out a book from the Children’s Room to check out and read together. The children can fill out a reading log for a book prize at the end of the tutoring program. The sessions began February 24 and will run for 12 weeks.

Teacher Alicia Farrar sponsors the program, and the teen volunteers participated in orientation sessions before the tutoring project began.

Asheboro High School student Mady Adams was a sophomore when she and a

friend developed the L.E.A.D. program in fall 2024 for a DECA Club project. Now a junior, Adams wanted to continue the tutoring, and revived the initiative.

Historian Ricky Allred to talk about county ‘Poor House’

♣ Until the middle of the 20th century, counties were responsible for taking care of their poor and indigent citizens.

Local historian Ricky Allred will discuss Randolph County’s role in caring for its neediest citizens in a talk at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30, at the Asheboro library.

Allred is author of *The Least of These: Caring for the Poor in Randolph County, N.C., 1794-1922*, published in 2025. The book chronicles the provisions for caring for those who could not take care of themselves, from the parish-based system of colonial times through the post-independence shift to county responsibility and the



Ricky Allred

creation of a county Poor House, to the beginnings of state supervision following the Civil War, and finally to the replacement of the Poor House with a modern County Home in 1922.

While legal and government structure frame the historical account, stories Allred has uncovered of individuals within the system — both care recipients and caregivers — give color to the statistics and vitality to the narrative.

Allred’s interest in history springs from deep family roots in Randolph County, and has led to research into a variety of local history topics. He is known for his “Walk Through the Past” tours of the Old Asheboro Cemetery.

“Rinse, Read, Repeat!” at Liberty laundromat

The Liberty library will set up shop at the Liberty Laundry, 509 S. Greensboro St., from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 18, for “Rinse, Read, Repeat! ¡Lava, Lee, Libros!” Library staff will share free resources with the community, including books, at-home learning kits and more. The event is part of a grant project through the University of Washington, Califa and the Institute of Museum and Library Services focusing on community engagement strategies that enable rural library workers to improve service by learning about the experiences and aspirations of all community members.

Archdale

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

Asheboro

336-318-6800
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
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
1512 S. Main St.
Mon-Fri 9-6
Sat 9-1

Randleman

336-498-3141
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

March interruptions

♣ **The second and third weeks of March proved challenging for users of the Asheboro library.**

A long-needed replacement of the library's roof caused the library to close on short notice for four days during the week of March 9, and (as of this writing) an anticipated closure the following week.

In addition, the entire library system closed on Friday, March 20, for our annual Staff Development Day.

We know that inaccessibility of the libraries is frustrating, but these temporary interruptions are for the long-term good of the library — physically and philosophically. We appreciate your patience!

The closing for roof work was due to the material used. A spray was applied that dries into a hardened, impermeable roof.

But the spraying required shutting off rooftop heating/air conditioning units, and risked overspray at the front of the building and odor. The library could not be open during this process.

The work only addresses the flat part of the roof on top of the building; additional work will be required on the tile sections and the eaves. The City of Asheboro, which owns the building, is taking this on as a multi-year project.

Staff Development Day

The library system's Staff Development Day each spring has become a crucial event in the life of the library.



Countywide staff during last year's Staff Development Day

With all the activities going on at each branch, it's difficult to get all the staff together at one time in one place for learning, sharing and bonding.

This one day each year affords us that opportunity. Staff members emerge refreshed and recharged, with new ideas to take home to their libraries.

This year's event was slated to include media training with Randolph County Public Information Officer Amy Rudisill; Wellness Initiatives with county Wellness Administrator Kristi Wallace; Peer Support with Asheboro Counseling and Wellness; a preview of the library's new Strategic Plan with consultants Jeff Hall and Suzanne White; and more. The Friends of the Library provided lunch.

We know that there are myriad ways people use their libraries, and we are always reluctant to close unless forced to do so by circumstances out of our control.

The roof will provide long-lasting shelter to the Asheboro library. Our Staff Development Days have a less tangible but equally meaningful long-term part to play in service to library patrons.



Explore 'How Stuff Works' in April

♣ Find out "How Stuff Works" in a series of programs in April at the Franklinville and Seagrove libraries.

In "How Stuff Works: Water Filtration," learn how nature makes clean water, and replicate this vital system using common household items. Franklinville: 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 8. Seagrove: 4 p.m.

Hunt shark teeth at Randleman ...and other activities around the county

♣ Learn about hunting for shark teeth and seashells with Dr. Ashley Oliphant, 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, at the Randleman library for ages 16 and up.

Oliphant is a nationally-recognized shell and shark tooth hunter, and author of the book *The Ultimate Shell Seeker's Guide*.

After the library-sponsored event, Oliphant will offer a fossil/seashell dig activity for \$10, or a take-home sample for \$12 (fee payable to Oliphant at the program).

Registration is required; call 336-498-3141 to sign up.

Soap-making

Learn the basics of soap-making in a class at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, at the Asheboro library. Kathryn Pruitt will demonstrate how to make soap and add scents; each participant will take home two small bars of soap to cure. Ages 18 and up; call 336-318-6803 to register.

Mission: Mad Scientist

Get ready to experiment, explore and have a blast as the Asheboro Children's Room launches Mission: Mad Scientist, a six-week program at 3:30 p.m. Fridays beginning April 10 for kids age 7-10.

Join Ms. Rebecca for a hands-on science program where curiosity leads the way through fun experiments, cool discoveries

Friday, April 10.

In "How Stuff Works: Vermiculture," learn how to set up your own worm composting bin to turn kitchen scraps into garden gold. One lucky participant will get to take a vermiculture bin home.

Franklinville: 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 15.
Seagrove: 4 p.m. Friday, April 17.

and "Wow!" moments. Come ready to learn, laugh and get a little messy.

Space is limited; call 336-318-6804 to reserve a spot.

Food waste into fertile soil

In "From Table to Harvest," 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 9, at the Asheboro library, learn how to turn your food waste into fertile soil — and your own produce garden — with Kathryn Reis of Randolph County Soil and Water.

Reis will talk about the value of composting and how to create a compost bin at little cost. She also will cover fascinating and sometimes artistic ways to transform store-bought fruits and vegetables into sprouting produce.

Paint with Us

Recharge and relax while painting a modern and colorful portrait of a horse at the Franklinville and Seagrove libraries. Bring an 8x10 or 9x12 canvas; all other materials will be provided. No experience necessary. Call to register.

Seagrove: 12:30 p.m. Saturday, April 11 (336-873-7521). Franklinville: 2 p.m. Sunday, April 12 (336-685-3100).

Keeping Chickens

The Ramseur library will host "Keeping Chickens for Beginners" with local chicken expert Ron Hall, 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 21.



Book discussions

Asheboro Reads: Read a book about a U.S. state you have yet to visit. 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 28.

Archdale Book Break: *The Briar Club* by Kate Quinn, 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 21.

Franklinville: Snippets Book Club. Discuss articles from *The Sun* magazine, 12:30 p.m. Monday, April 20.

Liberty Afternoon Book Club: *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Kruger, 1 p.m. Monday, April 20.

Liberty Evening Book Club: *Broken Country* by Claire Leslie Hall, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16.

BYO book groups

Talk about books that you've read recently.

Archdale, Book Bites, 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 14.

Ramseur Page Turners, 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 7.

Randleman Readers Recommend, 3:30 p.m. Friday, April 10.

Randleman Teen Talk Book Club, 3:30 p.m. Friday, April 24.

Seagrove, Un-Book Club, 4 p.m. Friday, April 24.

Find out how technology can protect the planet

In honor of the month in which Earth Day is recognized, learn about "Tech for the Planet" with Digital Services Librarian Harris Mason, 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 22. Mason will talk

about five ways technology can provide powerful tools for protecting the earth, from AI sorting machines at recycling centers to underwater microphones that help boats avoid collisions with whales.

BUT WAIT THERE'S MORE!

Wild Tails at Liberty

Animal ambassadors from Wild Tails NC will visit Liberty for "Wild Tails at the Library," 4 p.m. Monday, April 6. Learn about the animals visiting and have a meet and greet with the animals and Wild Tails staff.

Wild Tails is home to a diverse collection of exotic species serving as animal ambassadors to benefit their wild relatives and conservation efforts.

Registration required; call 336-622-4605 or visit the library.

Learn about NC insurance services

The Archdale library will host representatives from the North Carolina

Department of Insurance at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, who will provide an overview of the department and the services it provides to state residents. Attendees will learn about the department's role in answering questions, responding to complaints, investigating fraud, promoting fire safety and offering guidance on topics such as homeowners and auto insurance, and disaster preparedness.

Registration is preferred but not required; visit the library or call 336-431-3811.

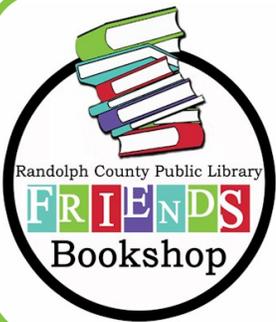
Special Manga Meet Up

Liberty will host a special Manga Meet Up for teens, 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, featuring Manga-related activities and videos.

Randolph County Public Libraries

201 Worth Street
Asheboro, NC 27203

Return Service Requested



10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
**Tuesdays,
Thursdays and
Saturdays**
**226 Sunset Ave.
Asheboro**
randolphfriends.org

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memorials & donations

In Memory of: Jerry Carroll Bledsoe
By: Joan Allred

In Memory of: L.T. (Rusty) Hammond
By: Joan Allred
Blanche and Bill Keller
Phil Shore and Suzanne Tate

In Memory of: Mary Alice Hammond
By: Asheboro Public Library Foundation
Martha Harvey Hammond
Blanche and Bill Keller
Phil Shore and Suzanne Tate

To the Friends of the Library

In Memory of: Ellen Greer
By: The Friday Morning Bookshop Crew

In Memory of: Rusty Hammond
By: Ralph and Jane Eddy
The Friday Morning Bookshop Crew

In Memory of: Brenda Pickel
By: Clark Bell

Sarah Shoffner

We remember Sarah Shoffner, who passed away on March 6. Sarah was a former member of the Randolph County Public Libraries Board of Trustees, and a longtime member of the Liberty library advisory board.

Constitution film

♣ **Mark your calendars for *The American Constitution* film event, 2 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at the Sunset Theatre in Asheboro.**

Part of the Revolutionary Randolph celebration of America's 250th anniversary, the screening will be followed by a discussion with filmmaker David Garrigus.

The hour-long film tells the "origin story" of the Constitution in the words of the Founders.

Look for more details in next month's newsletter.