



Library gets grants to add storywalks, streamline materials handling with RFID

♣ The library will add Storywalks in Archdale, Randleman and Seagrove, and implement materials handling by Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) with two new federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants.

A \$16,300 grant will fund Storywalks — panels containing a page each of a children’s book, spaced along an outdoor path — to be placed at Creekside Park in Archdale, Clay Presnell Memorial Park in Seagrove, and a Randleman park to be determined.

The new Storywalks will join two recently constructed at Riverside Park in Franklinville and Paul Henry Smith Park in Liberty, also funded by an LSTA grant.

Books in the Storywalks are changed each month. The panels also include information about early literacy resources at the library and in the community.

All titles used in the Storywalks are bilingual in English and Spanish.

The new Storywalk project is a partnership among the library, the Randolph Partnership for Children, and the municipalities of Archdale, Randleman and Seagrove.

RFID

The \$78,425 grant for RFID will streamline checkout, check-in, inventory and other handling of library materials through the use of short-range radio transponder chips in each item that will replace traditional barcodes.

As a result, multiple items can be checked out or checked in at once, without each item being handled.

The changes will create labor savings that will free staff



Liberty library cuts the ribbon on its Storywalk at Paul Henry Smith Park during a community Juneteenth celebration on June 18.

for more substantive interactions with patrons in-house and in the community — especially helping to meet the growing demand for Mobile Library stops. The project also will make self-checkout available at all seven libraries, although staff-assisted checkout will remain available.

Next year, the project is expected to be expanded to include materials security.

The two grants are made possible by funding from the federal Institute of Library and Museum Services (IMLS) under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (IMLS grant number LS-252476-OLS-22).

The test you can't fail: learn all about DNA testing

Not sure if you want to take a DNA test? Wondering which company to use? Get answers to these questions and more in "DNA: The Test You Can't Fail" at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 11, at the Asheboro library. Randolph Room librarian Kendra Lyons will walk participants through the capabilities and differences in various tests available. Lyons has pursued genealogy for more than 30 years. She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, helping prospective members research their families, and of the American Association of Professional Genealogists.

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 9-5:30
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 9-5
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

Navigator success illuminates needs

♣ **Almost as soon as Angi Polito, our first community navigator, started work on February 16, requests for help began rolling in.**

As of this writing, with Angi's teammate Dana Nance on board as of April 1, the two veteran social workers had received 171 referrals — 49 in June alone. That's an average of more than one per day.

Developed in partnership with the Randolph Partnership for Children, the Randolph County Department of Social Services and Randolph County Public Health, the Community Navigator program enables people with human services needs to get help from social workers in the safe environment of the libraries.

The goal is to short-circuit the slide into a greater level of need that requires more intensive intervention, especially where children are concerned.

After just five months in operation, the program is meeting our goals, exceeding our expectations and having a big impact on people's lives.

The navigators have helped people who are dealing with food insecurity, seeking medical care they can ill-afford, looking for work and lacking transportation. They walk clients through complicated benefit enrollment processes, applications for employment and other online services (pointing up another need — digital literacy).

They have worked with clients seeking help with mental health issues, substance abuse, personal care, day care, domestic violence and senior care. They have carried

out several crisis interventions, although many of their clients are in what I would consider slow-moving crises — bad situations that are slowly getting worse.

The most frequent need among the navigators' clients, however, is housing. Individuals and families seeking affordable housing account for about 35 percent of referrals. Add those needing help paying rent or utility bills, or making critical home repairs (especially among older folks), and some kind of housing problem accounts for half the requests for assistance.

In many if not most cases, clients do not have just one of the above-described needs, but layered or interlinked ones that require support on several fronts at once.

To help people meet these needs, the navigators have engaged with more than 75 area agencies, organizations, churches, businesses and professionals. They are finding that in many cases, several places have a piece of someone's puzzle — highlighting how hard it can be for an individual to navigate a maze of agencies and organizations to find help, and demonstrating how valuable it is to have our navigators developing this expertise.

To date, about 52 percent of clients have been followed through to successful outcomes, with 12 percent in process. The remainder either didn't connect with services or the navigators were not able to learn about the results.

If you or someone you know "needs help finding help," reach our navigators at 336-318-6825 or navigators@randolphlibrary.org.

County assumes Ramseur library operation

♣ The Randolph County Public Libraries assumed direct operation of the Ramseur Public Library on July 1.

The library was already a part of the county library system, but has been operated by the Town of Ramseur since its establishment in 1936.

Through a new agreement between the town and the county, the county will be responsible for library operations while the town will retain responsibility for the library building.

Library users are not expected to notice major changes — librarians Sandy Jarrell and Tammy Crofts will remain — but a new part-time library assistant position will be added, as well as housekeeping support.

Staff are looking at extending hours to

6 p.m. each weekday, offering more after school and work availability. The library now is open until 5 p.m. Book and programming budgets will increase.

The county library system has been a partnership between county government and the municipalities since its establishment in 1940. Governance arrangements between the county and individual cities and towns have changed over time.

Currently, the Asheboro, Archdale, Franklinville, Ramseur and Seagrove libraries are operated by the county with significant municipal support. The Liberty and Randleman libraries are operated by their municipalities with significant county support.

Asheboro kids to focus on mindfulness and more activities at libraries around the county

♣ Breathe in, breath out! Stretch and move!

Children at the Asheboro library can focus their minds and bodies to be the best that they can be in “Mindfulness & Nutrition for Littles,” a special storytime at 10 a.m. Tuesday, August 2, with guests Melissa Thompson and Amaris Avalos from the Randolph County Health Department.

The storytime is best for ages 4 and up.

Liberty caps Summer Reading

The Liberty library wraps up Summer Reading with a “Luau on the Lawn” from 4-6 p.m. Saturday, August 6, followed by a screening of the movie *Moana* on the big screen indoors at 6 p.m.

‘Shell and Tell’

Why do animals have shells? How do they form? Find out in “Shell and Tell,” a school-age activity at the Franklinville and

Seagrove libraries. *Franklinville: 4 p.m. Tuesday, August 2. Seagrove: 4 p.m. Tuesday, August 16.*

Bugs in Asheboro

School-age kids at the Asheboro library can learn all about the study of bugs with special guests from ecoExplore and the Greensboro Science Center in “Entomology for Junior Scientists,” 3 p.m. Wednesday, August 10.

Participants also can check out ecoExplore backpacks for outdoor exploration.

Paper-making

Make your own paper — it’s surprisingly easy to do — in “Art of Paper” workshops for adults and teens at the Franklinville and Seagrove libraries.

Franklinville: 4 p.m. Wednesday, August 17. Seagrove: 4 p.m. Thursday, August 25.



Book discussions

Asheboro Reads: *The Personal Librarian* by Victoria Christopher Murray and Marie Benedict, 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 26; *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn, 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 30.

Archdale Book Break: On hiatus for the summer; meetings will resume in September.

Book Bites (Archdale): Talk about the most exciting or interesting book you have read lately; share a second if time permits. A list of all books shared will be posted online for reading inspiration. 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 9.

Liberty Book Club: *The Book Woman’s Daughter* by Kim Michelle Richardson, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 18. Call 336-622-4605 or stop by the library for copies of the book.

DIY ice cream

Learn how to make an easy ice cream recipe and enjoy a cold, sweet treat at the Liberty library, 3 p.m. Thursday, August 4. While supplies last (and when the supplies run out, so does the ice cream!).

Liberty library to host two weeks of robots

Kids can help Liberty print robot parts on the library’s new 3D printer, 2-4 p.m. each day during the week of August 8-12 in “Robot Building Week.” Then using the newly-made robots,

play games like Capture the Flag, jousting and dancing in “Robot Game Week,” 2-4 p.m. each day during the week of August 15-19. For more information, call 336-622-4605.

Get the scoop on streaming services, buying new technology

♣ Find out about the ever-expanding universe of streaming services, and discover what to think about when buying new technology, in two Asheboro library workshops, each offered at two times.

In **What Are Streaming Services**, at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 9, and again at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, August 25, learn about entertainment providers such as Netflix, Hulu, Disney+ and others. Find out how streaming works, what you need to get started, the advantages and disadvantages to streaming, exploring what's available,

and deciding if it's worth it for you.

Meanwhile, are you thinking about buying a new tablet or laptop, or can't decide if Apple, Windows or Android is right for you? Not exactly sure what a Chromebook is? In **What to Consider When Buying New Technology**, at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 16 and again at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 31, learn about current technology and its distinctions. Get expert recommendations based on the functionality you are looking for so you can feel comfortable navigating the market when you are ready to buy.

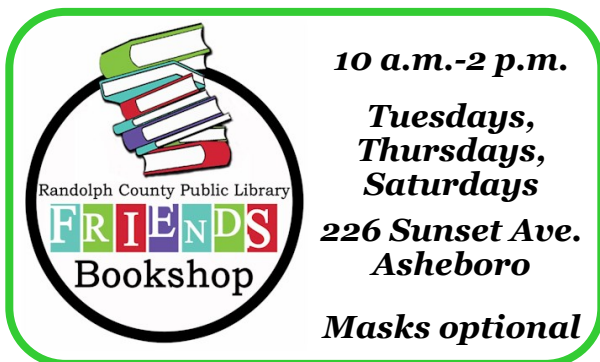
For further information, call 336-318-6803.

Randolph County Public Libraries

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Asheboro, NC 27203

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By: Little Gate Garden Club

In Memory of: Margery Ross

By: Bill Collins

In Memory of: Jean Vollrath

By: Joan Allred
Barbara Hill
Ramseur Library Staff

In Honor of: Dorothy Marion Cooper

By: Nancy Marion Swaney

In Honor of: Community Navigator Program

By: May Hostesses of the Reviewers Book Club

Joe Hardin

We remember Joe Hardin, chairman of the Ramseur Public Library Board of Trustees, who passed away on June 29. A Ramseur native, Joe, served on the board for over 30 years, the last 20 years as chairman.