



## Sigmon, Shakespeare and more to round out Summer Reading activities



♣ Sigmon Theatrical's "Dragon Quest!" and three different Shepherd Shakespeare productions will visit several libraries as Summer Reading winds up in late July and early August.

Caleb Sigmon and his troupe will present "Dragon Quest!" at the Randleman library at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, August 1, and at the Asheboro library, 2:30 p.m. Friday, August 2.

The immersive, interactive experience transports audience members to a world where dragons take flight, featuring state-of-the-art puppetry and mesmerizing illusions in a world filled with magic, mystery and the age-old battle between good and evil.

Stay afterwards for a meet-and-greet.

### **Brush off your Shakespeare**

Charlotte-based Shepherd Shakespeare will bring three different shows to three libraries, all aimed at making the Bard accessible to kids.

At Archdale, the company will present *As You Like It* at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 31.



Franklinville will host *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at 10:30 a.m. Monday, August 5.

Seagrove will host *Hamlet and the Pirates*, a never-before-heard tale of the Danish prince's adventures among the pirates of the North Sea, at 10:30 a.m. Friday, August 9.

### **Local Authors at Asheboro**

Local authors Micki Bare and Shannon Freeman will appear at the Asheboro library.

Bare, award-winning author of the *Zahra of the Uwharries* series, will hold an "Omega Crag Book Party" at



**Micki Bare**

3:30 p.m. Thursday, August 8, to talk about the third and latest installment in her series for middle-grade readers, with a Q & A following.

At 2:30 p.m. Friday, August 9, Freeman will host a "Golden Storytime" focusing on the title character of her book *Golden*, a coin who struggles with his self-worth. A Q&A will follow the story.

**There are more summer activities in August; visit [randolphlibrary.org/summer](http://randolphlibrary.org/summer) for a complete listing.**

## Learn about estate planning in library workshop

♣ "Wills, Advanced Directives and Heir Property" is the topic of a workshop at 6:30 p.m. Monday, August 12, at the Asheboro library.

Led by Legal Aid attorney Tiffany Smith, the class will cover requirements to make a will in North Carolina; living wills, powers of attorney and health care powers of

attorney; and what happens to property when there is no will and the laws of intestacy take over. Smith also will discuss heir property and family land.

Smith, an attorney in civil litigation for more than a decade, currently works with the Disaster Relief Project for Legal Aid of North Carolina.

***Take a visual tour of NC lighthouses* ...see page 3**

## 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**



# The little engine that could

## ♣ If libraries were children's books, our Ramseur library would be *The Little Engine That Could*.

Founded in 1936, the library has been at the heart of the Ramseur community for 88 years, and remains so today. The Ramseur librarians over the years have been beloved by generations of area residents.

Lately, the library has experienced a resurgence. When the county took over direct operation of the library at the request of the Town Council in July 2022, librarians Sandy Jarrell and Tammy Crofts were joined by a 20 hour per-week part-time staff member and received housekeeping support — a role they previously had taken on in addition to their regular duties.

Thanks to the additional staff, the library is now open 6.5 more hours each week. Weekday hours now extend till 6 p.m., enabling people to visit after work, and Saturday hours have been restored.

The additional staffing also allows for more library programs and activities, especially for children. Indeed, the audience for library events jumped by 127 percent during the first year under the new arrangement — outpacing program attendance growth in the county library system as a whole by about 20 percent.

This year's figures are expected to show another 100 percent increase in program attendance, compared to 34 percent for the county as a whole.

The librarians are increasing the number of activities they offer in the library and are adding events for a greater range of ages.

The popular Ramseur Page Turners Book Club meets monthly, as does a senior bingo group.

The librarians also have re-engaged with local schools, and are carrying library programming to the students.

Meanwhile, during its first year of county operation Ramseur outpaced the county as a whole in the increase in number of checkouts from the previous year (16.6 percent versus 8.7 percent) and in the increase in number of visits (71 percent to 52 percent).

No doubt some of these numbers reflect the impact of reorganization of the library interior, which provided for a spacious children's area with generous room for activities, and which keeps like materials (fiction, non-fiction, children's, teen) together for easier access.

All of this success is made possible by the continuing collaboration of the Town of Ramseur and the county, for which we are grateful. While the county operates the library, the town saves some of the money it previously spent on the library, but reimburses the county for the part-time position and housekeeping hours.

The town also provides the primary book budget, and maintains the building and grounds (at the start of June, the town bit a costly bullet to quickly replace the building's air conditioning, which failed during the hottest days of the year).

The library remains the beloved local institution that it always has been, but with a far greater capacity to serve the people of Ramseur now and in the future.



# Tour NC lighthouses in library talk

♣ Take a visual tour of “The Historic Lighthouses of North Carolina” in a talk for kids and another for general audiences on Tuesday, August 6 at the Asheboro library.



Alma and Tony Pasek

Tony and Alma Pasek of the Outer Banks Lighthouse Society will celebrate the lure of lighthouses with all audiences at 6:30 p.m.

A version of the talk for children ages 4-8 at 10 a.m. that same day will include a lighthouse-themed storytime and lighthouse-making with red Solo cups.

The photographic tour for all audiences will start at the state’s northernmost tower, Currituck Beach at Corolla, and continue

south to Oak Island and Bald Head Island lighthouses, and also will visit two offshore “Texas Towers” and three inland lights. Lighthouse artifacts and memorabilia will be on display.

The Paseks, now retired and living in Asheboro, worked for the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. They were bitten by the “lighthouse bug” while on a family vacation to the Outer Banks in 1987.

They are members of the Outer Banks Lighthouse Society, the United States Lighthouse Society and other groups. They have visited over 500 lighthouses in the U.S. and Canada, and climbed half of them.

## Grief counselor to visit Liberty ...and other activities around the county

♣ The Liberty library will host Mary McMasters, founder of Good Grief 9290 and Hope Now, at 1 p.m. Saturday, August 10.

McMasters, who lives in Staley, founded the organization after the death of her daughter to provide resources for those who have suffered the loss of a loved one, or another type of loss that causes grief.

### Book clubs for kids, teens

**Liberty: Manga Meet-Up at the Library**, 1 p.m. Saturday, August 17, Ages 11 and up. Crafts, activities, treats and videos related to manga and comic books.

**Randleman: Teen Talk Book Club**, 3:30 p.m. Friday, August 16, 6th-8th graders. Bring a book you’d like to share with others.

**Seagrove: Books and Banter**, 4:30 p.m. Thursday, August 8. Meet with other teens to talk about what you’re reading and find new books.

### New Liberty hours

The new hours at the Liberty library are Monday 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Tuesday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Wednesday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

### Seed saving at Seagrove

Learn how to save seed from your garden with simple tips and tricks, 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 13, at the Seagrove library.

### Chatting and crafting

Bring a craft of your choice for “Chat and Craft,” 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 28, at the Franklinville library.



## Book discussions

**Asheboro Reads, Afternoon Edition: Tobacco Wives** by Adele Myers, 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 27.

**Archdale Book Break:** Resumes in September.

**Franklinville: Snippets Book Club**, 12:30 p.m. Monday, August 19.

**Liberty Book Club:** *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 15.

**Liberty Readers Meet-Up:** *Sunrise on Half Moon Bay* by Robin Carr, 1 p.m. Monday, August 12, Liberty Senior Center.

## BYO book groups

Talk about books that you’ve read recently.

**Archdale: Book Bites**, 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 13.

**Ramseur Page Turners**, 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 6.

**Randleman Readers Recommend**, 3:30 p.m. Friday, August 2.

**Seagrove: Un-Book Club**, 6 p.m. Tuesdays July 30 and August 27.

## Tech classes

“Better Understanding” Android and iOS mobile phone operating systems is the topic of a new Asheboro tech class at 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 7, and 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 14.

## Seagrove library receives gift from Bumgarner estate

The Seagrove Public Library received a bequest from the Estates of Phillip (Gene) and Betty Bumgarner in the amount of \$5,000. The Bumgarners, who operated Electronic Service Company in

Asheboro for over 20 years, were longtime Seagrove residents.

The funds will go into the Randolph County Public Libraries trust to be used for the benefit of the Seagrove library.



## 'Donuts and Digital Services' *Liberty offers tasty incentive*

♣ Enjoy donuts and learn about online resources available for free from your public library in "Donuts and Digital Services," 1 p.m. Thursday, August 15, and 11 a.m. Saturday, August 17, at Liberty.

Resources for school-aged kids and teens doing research, and caregivers with school-aged children, will be featured. The same information will be offered at each of the workshops.

Bring a phone, tablet, laptop or other digital device to learn how to access content with your library card or REAL2 student ID.



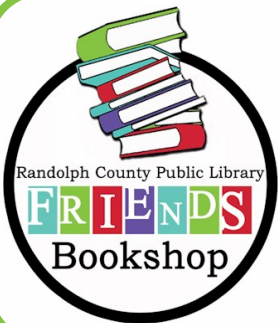
### **Liberty receives Chamber award**

*Liberty library Manager Brenda Hornsby-Heindl accepts the Large Business of the Year award from Liberty Chamber of Commerce board member Kevin Bowman and President Ronda Sizemore at the Chamber's awards event in May.*

## **Randolph County Public Libraries**

201 Worth Street  
Asheboro, NC 27203

*Return Service Requested*



**10 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**Tuesday,  
Thursday,  
Saturday**  
**226 Sunset Ave.  
Asheboro**

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## **memorials & donations**

To: Asheboro Public Library  
By: Janice Bell  
Doris Kidwell

In Memory of: Loretta Lutman  
By: Et Hacskaylo

In Memory of: Myrtle Luther Cox  
By: The Remaining Members of the 1952  
Seagrove High School Graduating Class

In Honor of: The Remaining Members of  
the 1952 Seagrove High School  
Graduating Class  
By: Anonymous

## **Creativebug!**

### ***New online resource offers craft classes***

♣ Access thousands of fine art and handcrafting classes — and more — for free through Creativebug, a new online resource available through the library.

Creativebug also features downloadable patterns, templates and recipes, and enables users to connect with other crafters in forums and community galleries.

Get 24/7 access with your library card or REAL2 student ID at [www.randquest.org](http://www.randquest.org).

The video classes cover all areas of arts and crafts, and are taught by recognized design experts and artists. New classes are released every day.

Library staff will be able to use Creativebug when developing classes offered in person at the libraries.