

# RANDOLPH COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY *news*

Randolph County  
Serving with *Heart* from the  
Heart of North Carolina

Every **CHILD**  
Ready to **READ**  
your library

volume xxviii no. 2 • August 2020

[randolphlibrary.org](http://randolphlibrary.org)

## Blackbeard to (virtually) visit library

♣ Grab your eyepatch, parrot, and telescope – a swashbuckling voyage is in store!

Illusionist and storyteller Caleb Sigmon returns — virtually — with “Blackbeard’s Pirate Adventure” for children and families, premiering on the library’s Facebook page on August 17 and viewable for two days.

Find it at [Facebook.com/randolphlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/randolphlibrary).

When an explorer accidentally awakens Blackbeard’s ghost, an epic chase for buried treasure ensues that will keep everyone on the edge of their seats, laughing, singing, and screaming all the way!

An expedition for the entire family, this interactive show features daring swordfights, pirate shanties, magical effects, and one hilarious talking parrot that will have you busting at the seams.

You’ll learn about some of the most famous pirates to ever sail the seven seas, all while following a 300 year old treasure map to save the day.



## Bright Star to present “FrankenSTEM”

♣ Meet Dr. Frank N. Stein and lend your imagination to his amazing inventions as BrightStar Touring Theatre presents “FrankenSTEM” at 6 p.m. Tuesday, September 22.

Children and families can sign up for the live, interactive Zoom event at [tinyurl.com/BSTTZM](https://tinyurl.com/BSTTZM).

Dr. Frank N. Stein is one of the world’s most famous scientists. Along with his trusty assistant, Igor, Dr. Stein has



created the world’s most amazing inventions.

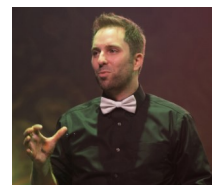
But it will take Science, Technology, Engineering and Math — STEM — to make his latest masterpieces come to life.

The performance helps students learn why STEM is so important while opening up a world of STEM discovery.

Based in Arden, N.C., near Asheville, Bright Star presents literary, curriculum and character education based theatrical performances that are as entertaining as they are educational.

### ***Tim Decker Sunset Series performance rescheduled again***

*The Friends of the Library Sunset Signature Series event featuring performance speed painter Tim Decker has been postponed again due to pandemic concerns, and now is anticipated to take place on April 24, 2021. The event originally was rescheduled from March 14 to September 19.*



**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)  
336-685-3100  
111 Sumner Place  
Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 2-6;  
Wed 10-2; Sun. 2-5

**Liberty**  
336-622-4605  
Fax 336-622-2665  
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

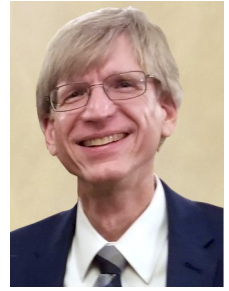
**Randleman**  
336-498-3141  
Fax 336-498-1139  
142 W. Academy St.  
Mon-Fri 9-6;  
Sat 9-1

**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

*from  
the  
director*

**Ross A. Holt**



## Overdue!

### ♣ When the governor handed down his stay-at-home order, I prepared.

I ended up with a tall stack of library books plus several others I ordered online. At the bottom of the stack was a lengthy novel, *Hard Country* by Michael McGarrity.

A quasi-western, it was not to my usual taste, but it looked interesting and atmospheric.

Alas, as I cycled through Michael Connelly and W.E.B. Griffin and Owen Laukkanen and the new Harlan Coben and others, I was holding poor Mr. McGarrity in deep reserve.

And that's where he stayed until earlier this week when...

...I received an overdue notice (!) from the library.

Long overdue.

Chagrined, I dug out Mr. McGarrity and turned him in, where he languished three more days in quarantine. Fortunately, he was not on hold for someone else.

I was not alone in my post-stay-at-home shock. When we fired up the last remaining of our daily computer system functions in late July, a stunning, four-inch high stack of overdue notice postcards emerged.

As did an unusually high count of still-overdue items.

We have suspended both collection and accrual of overdue fines indefinitely, but we felt like we needed to alert people to return overdue books, DVDs and audiobooks that might have been overlooked, before those items ticked over to "lost" and did accrue a fee.

So we resumed routine daily overdue alerts by phone or email, and mailed the huge stack of postcards.

What we overlooked was that some of the cards contained dire "final notice" wording — return the material or else! We received a number of phone calls from borrowers concerned that the library indeed might be, like the difficult terrain of Mr. McGarrity's novel, a *hard country*.

As was the case with many other aspects of our recent lives, our computer system designers did not envision an extended shutdown and partial library service. From March 17 through June 1, the system was set in holiday mode, so nothing was due.

When we reinstated due dates after June 1, however, the march of days toward overdue status restarted — but we still were not sending notices. So once we resumed the notices, some borrowers got a shock.

Never fear, though, overdue fines still are forgiven, and many of the stray books are finding their ways back in. The normal notice routine has resumed, so you'll hear from us initially, by phone or email, five days after an item is due (it's usually three days, but we have extended the time to allow for our three-day quarantine of items). There will be two additional friendly notices before the draconian "final notice."

As for Mr. McGarrity, I'm a fan of his Kevin Kearney police procedurals, so I'll probably go back to *Hard Country* one day. But I think he's seen enough of my bookshelf for awhile.

# Do you miss browsing the stacks?

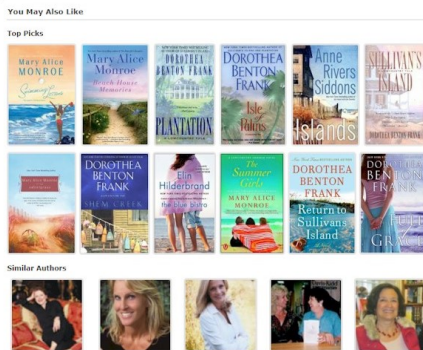
## Do it virtually in our 'Unbound' catalog...

### ♣ Do you miss browsing through the stacks at the library?

Try out a feature in our library catalog called Syndetics Unbound to browse virtually.

Just look up a book you like and click on the title. In the window that opens up, scroll down to the Syndetics Unbound tab to find a variety of connections to help you discover your next reading experience:

- Other books by the same author
- If your title is in a series, other books in the series, in sequence;
- Similar books by other authors;



- Plot summaries and first chapter excerpts;
- Professional and reader reviews;
- "Shelf browse," a feature that lets you virtually see books on the shelf surrounding the title you've looked up.

All the titles shown are in our collection, so

all you have to do is click on the jacket image to make a request.

Syndetics Unbound harnesses the power of the LibraryThing.com social reading site to expand the capability of our library catalog. Access the catalog at [www.randolphlibrary.org](http://www.randolphlibrary.org).

## ...or let us find your next books for you

### ♣ Need some Book Therapy?

Let librarians suggest books, DVDs and audiobooks for you.

Tell us about your reading, listening or viewing tastes by filling out the form at [tinyurl.com/bkthpy](http://tinyurl.com/bkthpy). You'll receive your own, personalized collection of three to five titles recommended by our expert



reader's advisory librarians.

We will package the books for you and have them ready for

curbside pick-up at your convenience, or email you a list of recommendations.

Book Therapy is available for those 12 years old and older; if you are looking for material for children, call our Children's Room at 336-318-6804.

## Randolph Room offers appointments

### ♣ Researchers now can visit the Randolph Room one at a time by appointment.

The collection will not be available for browsing, so visitors must have a *bone fide* research need. Staff will provide material and assistance on the requested subject.

Researchers must agree to pass through a screening checkpoint that may include a temperature check, maintain social distancing and wear a face covering at all times while present in the Randolph Room.

For more information or to set up an appointment, call 336-318-6815.



## Virtual Book Clubs

**Asheboro:** Join us for a book club using the library's Go-To-Meeting online conference tool, 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, August 27. Talk about 1-2 books you've read recently, and join a free-for-all discussion at the end. You will need a computer with sound and a microphone to participate; you can also join by phone.

To sign up, contact Meghan Carter, [mcarter@randolphlibrary.org](mailto:mcarter@randolphlibrary.org). You will receive a link to the conference.

**Liberty:** Discuss the book that inspired the Reese Witherspoon sensation, *Big Little Lies*, by Liane Moriarty at 6 p.m. Thursday, August 20.

Call 336-622-4605 or email [cjohnson@randolphlibrary.org](mailto:cjohnson@randolphlibrary.org) for a link to the live, interactive discussion.

## Franklinville hours

The Franklinville Public Library has added additional curbside pickup hours. Hours are now Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 2-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 2-5 p.m. Call the library at 336-824-4020 or 336-685-3100 to arrange pickup.

**Access Ancestry.com  
free thru  
September 30**

Free remote access to Ancestry Library Edition, the library version of Ancestry.com, has been extended through September 30. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/randrm> to log in with your

library card and PIN.

Ancestry Library Edition is usually available only at the library, but Ancestry.com is offering access from anywhere during the pandemic.

# Randleman offers activity kits for all ages, virtual events

♣ **Preschoolers, school-age kids, tweens and teens, and adult all will have something to take home from the Randleman library in September.**

The library is offering activities for all ages centered around kits that can be picked up at the library and enjoyed at home. Register for all programs by calling the library at 336-498-3141.

For preschoolers, the kits will sync with storytimes at [facebook.com/randlemanpubliclibrary](https://facebook.com/randlemanpubliclibrary) each Friday at 10:30 a.m. All who register will receive a welcome kit as well as a weekly activity.

“It’s All About Those Apples” for school-age children

K-8th grade, who can pick up apple-themed activity packs. The packs are differentiated by age group and all supplies are included.

Tweens and teens age 11-15 can join in “Create and Explore: Sun Fun.” Make a sparkling sun catcher with brilliant gemstones; experiment to see how SPF makes a difference in sunscreen protection; and complete a book activity for a chance to win a DIY planetarium solar system.

For adults and teens age 16 and older, Connie is back with “Take & Make.” Make a lovely hanging hand towel holder with a potholder, hand towel and button.

## Randolph County Public Library

201 Worth Street  
Asheboro, NC 27203

*Return Service Requested*

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Asheboro, NC 27203  
Permit No. 50

## memorials & donations

**In Memory of: Glenda Bingham**  
By: W.A. and Doris R. Hammond

**In Honor of: Library Extension  
Department**  
By: Amanda Garbe

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### *To the Friends of the Library*

**In Memory of: Jim Culberson**  
By: Bob and Jane Darwin  
Lynne Qualls

## Liberty hosts Patterson tour, more

♣ **Take a virtual tour of Liberty’s Patterson Cottage Museum with historian Warren Dixon at 3 p.m. Thursday, August 27.**

The tour will be posted to [Facebook.com/LibertyNCLibrary](https://facebook.com/LibertyNCLibrary). Dixon will highlight some of his favorite objects from the collection.

Preschool children are invited to **Phonics and the Alphabet**, a weekly online storytime at 10:30

a.m. Wednesdays. Follow a different letter of the alphabet each week. Videos will be available on the library’s Facebook page and YouTube channel for one week.

Kids of all ages can give back and **Build a Bookmark** in August and September. Decorate a bookmark; winning entries will be selected, laminated and sold to raise funds for children’s books for the library. Pick up blank bookmarks from the newspaper box in front of the library.