

# ★ ★ *EXTRA!* ★ ★

## randolph county public library

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best place  
to start.

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## *news*

### NC LIVE adds new resources

♣ NC LIVE, the state's online library, will offer major new databases in January, including downloadable audiobooks, a major business reference source and online preparation for standardized tests.

It's the first major reworking of NC LIVE since its beginnings in 1998. NC LIVE is a huge collection of research databases available both inside and outside the library to the state's public library cardholders and students in the UNC system, the community college system, and independent/private colleges.

New resources include:

- **OCLC/netLibrary eAudiobooks**, a collection of recorded books that you can check out by downloading them to your computer or other device;
- **ReferenceUSA**, detailed directory information on 12 million businesses, 102 million U.S. residents, 683,000 U.S. health care providers, 1 million Canadian businesses and 11 million Canadian residents;

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'Gravyboy' comic book writer Marty Blevins (l) and artist Brian Shearer (r), by Shearer.

### 'Gravyboy' creators to talk comics

♣ "Your mom told you never to play with your food... she never said you couldn't fight evil with it!"

That's the message of *GravyBoy* comic book, the story of Philbert Pharmac, who, by a tragic mistake, is given the power to manipulate gravy instead of gravity.

Marty Blevins, the writer, lives in Liberty, and Brian Shearer, the artist, lives in McLeansville. They met at UNCG, where they conceived the story of Philbert and his many adventures.

Blevins and Shearer will visit the Asheboro library at 7 p.m. Thursday, January 19, for a program entitled "Four-Color Panels: Comics, Cartoons and the Graphic Novel." The duo will share some of their favorite titles, demonstrate a little bit of drawing, and talk about the world of comics and cartooning.

The program, aimed at teens, is free and everyone is invited. The library has been slowly building a comic and graphic novel collection, and circulation has been great, so don't miss this event!

Learn more about the comic and its creators at

[www.gravyboy.com](http://www.gravyboy.com).

# ***Horizon goes live!***

- Our new **Horizon Information Portal Catalog** is now available!
- Check it out at *www.randolphlibrary.org*; click on Catalog Search.
- For your privacy, you now have a PIN in addition to your library card number to access your account. Currently, **your PIN is the last four digits of your phone number** on file with the library. You may change it from the “My Account” tab of the catalog.
- Renew online! Go to the “My Account” section; click on Items Out; check the box beside the item or items you want to renew; and click the Renew button.

## **Asheboro Reads moves into 2006**

♣ **Asheboro Reads promises more lively book discussions on the last Tuesday of each month, with works selected for each month through June.**

The group, which is open to anyone who has read and wants to talk about the book under consideration, will take a break in December but will resume from 2-3:30 p.m. January 31 with Anita Diamant's *Last Days of Dogtown*.

The February 28 discussion will explore Ann Patchett's *Bel Canto*, and on March 28, the group will consider Nicholas Sparks' *True Believer*.

The title for April 25 is *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines, and for May is *The Same Sweet Girls* by Cassandra King. In June, the group will read *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. Extra copies of each book will be available at the library in the weeks before it is discussed.

## **New NC LIVE resources to arrive**

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- **HeritageQuest**, the genealogy resource;
- **Britannica Online**
- **Enciclopedia Universal en Español**;
- **Learning Express Library**, an interactive test preparation site that helps you get ready for such exams as the SAT, GED, GRE, ACT, ASVAB, and various career-oriented tests;
- **Catalog of Art Image Online (CAMIO)**;
- **NewsBank North Carolina Plus**, which offers

access to articles in major North Carolina newspaper, some going as far back as 1985;

- Expanded versions databases that offer scholarly journals (**Academic Search Premier**) and business periodicals (**Business Source Premier**). Take a look at the complete list at [www.nclive.org/changes\\_2005.phtml](http://www.nclive.org/changes_2005.phtml).

Contact the library if you are interested in taking a class that covers using NC LIVE, and ask for staff assistance with any of these databases if you need it.