



Horizon!

What to expect from the new online library system

♣ The library's new Horizon information management system goes "live" on Wednesday, December 7, and along with it a fantastic new way for you to find and retrieve books, videos and other library material.

When you use a library catalog computer or search the catalog via our website, you'll be using the Horizon Information Portal (HIP). The colorful, web-based HIP will offer many more ways to search the catalog than our current system, making it quicker and easier to find and reserve items.

For about 80 percent of fiction and biography titles, HIP also will provide book reviews, author information, book jacket images and more. It will enable you to access your library records online, and renew items online as well.

Meanwhile, the new Telephone Messaging system will alert you when you have an item on hold or an overdue item. You also will be able to call in and renew items by touch-tone phone.

You will receive a PIN for online and telephone transactions; initially, it will be the last four digits of your phone number.

Although implementation of Horizon is underway, the change won't affect library users till Monday, December 5. That day and the next, we will discontinue using the current system. You will be able to check out material, but nothing will be checked in and new users cannot be registered.

On Wednesday, however, we will be "back to normal" — the new, advanced "normal" of the Horizon information management system.

Dulcet tunesmiths herald holidays

♣ A musical group and a vocalist will bring in the holiday season in two early December concerts at the Asheboro library.

Unique trio Mariano will perform at 7 p.m. Thursday, December 1, and celebrated local vocalist Lane Ragsdale will return at 7 p.m. Friday, December 16. Both concerts, sponsored by the



Mariano

Friends, are free and the public is invited.

The three members of **Mariano** are seasoned seasonal library veterans. The group debuted in a library concert, and have returned every holiday season since; this will be their fourth.

This year's concert will feature past favorites as well as new selections.

The trio combines the classical piano tones of Robin Guill Liles, the rich vocalizations of Marlo Applewhite Francis and the mellow marimba effects of Sharon Applewhite Wiley to shape an innovative and original style.

Ragsdale appeared previously in April with a program of musical reflections about growing up in Asheboro. This time, the New York-trained vocalist and his accompanist/arranger Max Blizzard will present "Merry Christmas from Lane and Friends," featuring holiday songs as well as recitations, comedy, and even a sing-along or two.



Ragsdale

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Archdale

336-431-3811
 Fax 336-431-4619
 10433 S. Main St.
 Mon, Wed, Fri 9-6;
 Tues, Thur 9-8;
 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, Thur-Sat 9-5
 Tues, Wed 9-9

John W. Clark

(Franklinville)
 336-824-4020
 111 Sumner Place
 Mon-Fri 2-6; Sun 2-5

Liberty

336-622-4605
 Fax 336-622-4605
 239 S. Fayetteville St.
 Mon, Wed, Fri 9-5;
 Tues, Thur 9-7; Sat 9-1

Ramseur

336-824-2232
 Fax 336-824-2232
 1512 S. Main St.
 Mon-Fri 8:30-5:30

Randleman

336-498-3141
 Fax 336-498-1139
 122 Commerce Sq.
 Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 10-1

Seagrove

336-873-7521
 530 Seagrove 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

Dial-A-Story

336-318-6833

**from
 the
 director**

by Richard Wells



Hospice tree fest helps kids

♣ **By the time you receive this, Christmas will have passed at the Asheboro library.**

Wait a minute! How can that be? It's only Thanksgiving!

Actually, Christmas is not yet upon us, but the Festival of Trees presented by Hospice of Randolph ran from November 11 through November 19.

Businesses and individuals sponsored Christmas trees for amounts ranging from \$300 to \$5000. Tabletop trees and wreaths also were available. This is a major fundraiser for Hospice that is now in its third year.

Special events were also presented by sponsors: Santa Land allowed a photo and a visit with Mr. & Mrs. Claus; a breakfast with Santa Claus; and a gingerbread village.

Having the event at the library allowed the 20-plus trees and exhibits sufficient area to be viewed. And we hope people were able to see the beautiful trees since we are open 65 hours per week.

The "kickoff" event was held Friday evening, November 11, and some 200 supporters and sponsors attended.



The income from the Festival went to Kids Path. This unique program supports children and their families in dealing with life-threatening illness and loss. The program includes counseling and other assistance specifically for children.

The Festival of Trees was a great success for Hospice of Randolph—it raised some \$20,000 for Kids Path—and we were pleased to be able to do our part as hosts. If you came to the library during this period, you had to leave with a bit of the Christmas spirit.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize the event coordinator, Helen Smith of Hospice, who saw that everything went smoothly.



Wal-mart gives

Assistant Director Suzanne Tate and Ramseur library manager Sandra Livingston flank Wal-mart manager John Pritchard, who presented the Asheboro library with a \$1,000 donation and Ramseur with a \$500 donation from Wal-mart to promote literacy.

Book groups move into new year

♣ **As the year winds down, reading and discussion groups at three libraries are taking a break for the holidays, but there will be plenty of ways to get involved in the new year.**

Each group is open to the public and refreshments are always provided.

Asheboro Reads is finishing the year out with a discussion of *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson. This book deals with an often glossed-over issue from America's past: the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II. The discussion will take place from 2–3:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 29.

If you can't make it for that discussion, please join us from 2–3:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 31, as we discuss *The Last Days of Dogtown* by Anita Diamant. We enjoyed *The Red*

Tent, and we are looking forward to discussing the latest by this author.

Archdale's Book Breaks discussed the ever-popular *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd on November 15, and will be getting in the holiday spirit in December with a discussion of *Red Bird Christmas* by Fannie Flagg. Join them from 2– 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 20, for that discussion.

On January 17, they will be traveling to Botswana via the pages of Alexander McCall Smith's *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*. Join them from 2– 3:30 p.m..

And, finally, **Liberty's Book Club** is taking a break for the rest of the year, but they have decided to start 2006 off with a mystery: *Finding Laura* by Kay Hooper, which they will discuss on January 24. They meet at 6:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Concerts herald the holidays

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They will be joined by several special guests from Ragsdale's life. The show will feature songs and recollections as well as a look into the past year from a Randolph County perspective.

Ragsdale, travel industry manager for the North Carolina Zoological Park,

recently performed at The Duplex and Birdland in New York City and was commissioned by the Z Smith Reynolds Foundation to write and perform his one man cabaret "Why Me?" in Septmeber. Blizzard has just finished a run as accompanist for the debut of the original musical "Pompeii" in Wilmington.

eAudiobooks

The "e" is not a typo— among new NC LIVE resources coming at the first of the year will be a collection of audiobooks that you can download to a computer or portable device for your listening pleasure.

The collection, provided by ebook vendor netLibrary, includes recent titles and bestsellers, classics and books for learning languages.

The e-audiobooks are among a host of new resources that includes *HeritageQuest*, online test and exam preparation from Learning Express, and the business database ReferenceUSA.

Look for more details in forthcoming newsletters.

Christmas gifts

Need a good idea for a Christmas gift? Make a minimum \$10 donation to the library in honor of someone.

The honoree will receive a seasonal card acknowledging the gift. For more information, call 318-6810 or 318-6818.

Book sale

The Friends of the Library book sale will take place from 9-3 p.m. Saturday, November 26, at the Friends Book Store off the Asheboro Public Library parking lot.

Seagrove circulation jumps following opening of new library

In the first month after its move into its new building, the Seagrove Public Library saw a 21 percent increase in the number of items checked out.

Between October 10 and November 10, patrons checked out 2037 items, compared with 1685 items for the same period last year.

Friends of the Randolph Public Library

YES! I'd like to become a Friend and support the wonderful programs sponsored by the Friends each year:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

- Student \$2
- Adult \$10
- Family..... \$15
- Patron \$25
- Bookworm..... \$50
- Benefactor..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$250
- Corporate Sponsor..... \$_____

Mail to: Friends of the Library
P.O. Box 2806
Asheboro, NC 27203
Memberships are tax deductible

YES! I'd like to help: ___Program planning___Program Receptions ___Book Sales___Membership

Randolph County Public Library

201 Worth Street
Asheboro, NC 27203

Return Service Requested

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

3RD PRE-SORT

Call us!

Renewals..... 318-6801

Children's Services..... 318-6804

Randolph Room..... 318-6815

Reference & Information.. 318-6800

memorials & donations

In Memory of: Robert Carlton
By: Asheboro High School Class of 1944

In Memory of: Parinne "Penny" Smith Coffin
By: Peggy and Joseph Bossong

In Memory of: Polly Marion
By: Asheboro Co-Ordinating Council of Beta
Sigma Phi

**In Memory of: Sarah Elizabeth Armfield
Smith**
By: Sue Joyner

In Memory of: Lillie Thurston

By: Carol Donnell

**In Memory of: Sharon Bumgarner
Voncannon**
By: Billy and Faye Byrd

In Memory of: Mack Williams
By: Juanita Jackson Kesler

In Honor of: Darrin Page
By: Parents-Betty and Tucker Page

In Honor of: Eastview Garden Club
By: Irene M. Smith