



Laffitte in Lincolnton?

Mother/daughter author duo trace NC history of notorious pirate

♣ Did the colorful New Orleans pirate Jean Laffitte fake his death in battle and live out his life in Lincolnton, North Carolina?

Mother/daughter author duo Beth Yarborough and Dr. Ashley Oliphant will present their evidence as they discuss their book *Jean Laffitte Revealed: Unraveling One of America's Longest-Running Mysteries* at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, at the Asheboro library.



Beth Yarborough and Ashley Oliphant

The talk is free and the public is invited.

Laffitte and his brother Pierre, smugglers and pirates, roamed the Gulf of Mexico in the early 1800s. During the War of 1812, Laffitte famously accepted a pardon in return for supporting U.S. Gen. Andrew Jackson against the British in the battle of New Orleans.

Laffitte was believed to have died of wounds in 1823 following a battle with Spanish ships off Honduras. But rumor said that he survived, and owing to his connection with a Lincolnton family, resided there under the name Lorenzo Ferrer until his death in 1875.

In their book, published in 2015 by the University of

Louisiana at Lafayette Press, Oliphant and Yarborough trace Laffitte through his rise to power as a privateer, his involvement in the war, his flight to Texas, and his eventual disappearance in the waters of the Caribbean.

With stunning revelations, the book picks up a trail to Lincolnton that no one knew existed.

The authors will take the audience on their journey to discover Laffitte's

fate, and talk about how researchers use genealogical methods to solve mysteries.

Oliphant is a retired English professor whose academic work focused on Ernest Hemingway. A Lincoln County resident, she is author of six books, including *Shark Tooth Hunting on the North Carolina Coast*.

Yarborough is an author, artist and photographer whose depictions of historic homes across the South are featured on her website, Southern Voices, and in an extensive collection of published calendars and fine art prints. Her artwork has reached millions of consumers worldwide through major retailers such as Walmart, Target, Lowes, Home Depot and Hobby Lobby.

Popular prof Smallwood to discuss Revolution

♣ "North Carolina and Its People on the Eve of and During the Revolution, 1765-1783" is the topic of a talk by Dr. Arwin Smallwood, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 7, at the Asheboro library.



Smallwood

Smallwood will discuss African Americans and Native Americans in North Carolina before, during and after the war, and how their experiences shaped their lives, as well as the lives of all North Carolinians.

Smallwood is professor and chair of the Department of History and Political Science at N.C. A&T State University, and recipient of the Gov. James E. Holshouser Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Service, one of the top two annual awards bestowed by the University of North Carolina system.

A native of Windsor, N.C., he holds a Ph.D. in early U.S. and African American History from Ohio State University.

Editor's note: Both of these events are rescheduled from earlier dates.

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-Tues 9-7
Wed-Fri 9-5
Sat 9-3

Ramseur

336-824-2232
Fax 336-824-2232
1512 S. Main St.
Mon-Fri 9-6
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 library's technology timeline

♣ **A desk drawer reorganization uncovered old papers that caused me to ruminate on the library's technological journey through the advent of the Information Age.**

It all started in the early 1990s, with one solitary public computer....

Note: Initiatives designated with an asterisk () were made possible by funding from the federal Library Services and Technology Act or its predecessor, the Library Services and Construction Act, through grants awarded by the State Library of North Carolina.*

1992. The Asheboro library offers one public computer with three CD-ROMs: an encyclopedia; an atlas; and a "bookshelf" incorporating a dictionary, a thesaurus and a quote book.

1993. Each branch gets a CD-ROM computer with the above mentioned resources.*

1994. The library subscribes to FirstSearch, an online research database accessible to staff via modem.

1995. A grant* and a gift from the Timken Foundation fund additional CD-ROM stations for Asheboro and enable networking of the computers to share resources, including a full-text magazine article CD-ROM database. A circulating CD-ROM collection is created.

1995. The Extension Services department begins using a custom-written database to track reading history and interests of its patrons.

1996. The "shelf list," comprised of an index card for each title in the library's 150,000-item collection, is sent off to be converted into machine-readable format.*

1997. All library functions are automated via the Dynix integrated online library system, and a wide area network connects all seven libraries.* The catalog allows for request and prompt

delivery of items countywide, and dial-in access. **1998.** Asheboro begins offering public Internet access in July. By October, it's available at Archdale, Randleman and Liberty, and by early 1999 at Franklinville, Ramseur and Seagrove.* **1998.** The library begins twice-weekly computer classes; over the next several years, thousands of patrons learn basic computing, Internet, email skills. Classes continue in modified form to the present.

1998. NC LIVE, the state's online library with a powerful array of research databases, launches.

1999. The library closes early and shuts down all computers due to fears about the "Y2K" bug.

2000. More Internet stations are added,* and libraries nationwide, including ours, receive servers and purpose-built public computers from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

2001. The first library website goes live.

2003. The Randolph County Historical Photograph Collection goes online with 1,500 digitized photos in a custom-written database.* Today, the collection numbers 9,187 images.

2004. The library hires our first full-time computer specialist, Justin Trogdon.

2004. The CybraryN Internet management system provides session timing, a waiting list, and print control for public computers.

2005. The Dynix automation system is upgraded to its successor, Horizon, featuring the web-based Horizon Information Portal Catalog.*

2006. More public computers are provided by the Gates Foundation.

2006. The historic photo collection is incorporated into the library catalog.

2006. The libraries begin offering free WiFi.

2007. Justin departs; Ian Fletcher, now network administrator, takes over in our sole IT position that makes all of this happen.

2007. LibraryThing for Libraries revolutionizes

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TeenBookCloud offers graphic novels

♣ Want to read a graphic novel or read along with a narrated Young Adult classic?



TeenBookCloud apps also are available in the Play Store and Apple Store; readers can download the app and log in

with their library card/student ID.

A new electronic resource, TeenBookCloud, offers a robust selection of graphic novels, Enhanced Novels, ebooks, classic literature, videos and educator resources, all available with your library card or student ID.

There's no downloading or waiting to check out an ebook — the entire collection is available online, anytime and from anywhere.

Access TeenBookCloud at the library's electronic resources site, www.randquest.org, or www.randolphlibrary.org/REAL2.

The Enhanced Novels collection features classic literature, Young Adult novels, middle school chapter books and non-fiction texts. Professional narration is paired with line-by-line highlighting of the text to promote reading fluency. The collection also includes audiobooks, videos and resources for educators.

TeenBookCloud is provided by the Tumble Books Library, which provides similar reading resources for younger children and also is available from the library.

Get 'Mushroom Madness' in March ...and more activities around the county

♣ Learn how to grow mushrooms — and take home the mushroom log you inoculate — in "Mushroom Madness" at the Archdale and Randleman libraries in March

The workshop will be led by Horticultural Extension Agent Cody Craddock. **Archdale:** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 20 (call 336-431-3811 to sign up); **Randleman:** 2-4 p.m. Tuesday, March 26 (call 336-498-3141 to sign up).

Genealogy at Randleman

Start the journey to find out more about your family tree in "Beginning Genealogy" with Randolph Room genealogy specialist Kendra Lyons, 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, at Randleman.

Seed Swap

Join Camp Ridge Homestead and the Seagrove library for a "Community Seed Swap," featuring sharing of seeds and tips

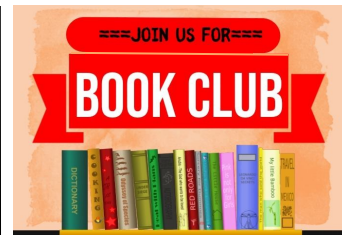
for planting and saving. 1 p.m. Saturday, March 9.

Bibliotherapy in March

Bibliotherapy is the art of prescribing fiction to find inspiring, memorable, and meaningful reads. Books can be a powerful tool for our emotions. They can educate us, provide insight, and be a source of comfort. Let our bibliotherapists provide you with 3-5 books we know you'll love. Sign up for your free session at the Asheboro Library or by calling 336-318-6803.

Ponder pollination

Thirty-five percent of food-bearing plants and 75-90 percent of flowering plants require pollinators. Join Judy West, past chair of the Triad Chapter of the North Carolina Native Plant Society, for "Pondering Pollination" at the Archdale library to learn about plants, and guidelines for care, that will assist pollinators. 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 26.



Book discussions

Asheboro Reads:

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt, 2 p.m. Tuesday, February 27.

Archdale Book Break: *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 19.

Franklinville: Snippets Book Club, 12:30 p.m. Monday, March 18.

Liberty Book Club: *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 14.

Liberty Readers Meet-Up: *Flying Angels* by Danielle Steel, 1 p.m. Monday, March 18, Liberty Senior Center.

BYO book groups

Talk about books that you've read recently.

Archdale: Book Bites, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 12.

Ramseur Page Turners, 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 5.

Randleman Readers Recommend, 3:30 p.m. Friday, March 1.

Seagrove: Un-Book Club, 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 26.

Resume building

Create an effective resume in "One-On-One Resume Building," 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, March 13 and Monday, March 18, at the Archdale Public Library. Call 336-431-3811 to register for a coaching session with Digital Services Librarian Harris Mason.

Book clubs for kids & teens

Asheboro TeenZone: Bring Your Own Book Club, 4 p.m. Monday, March 4. Discuss what you've been reading and enjoy tasty snacks.

Liberty: Manga Meet-Up at the Library, 1 p.m. Saturday, March 16, 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, March 15, 6th-8th graders. Bring a book you'd like to share with others.

The library's technology timeline *(continued)*

the library catalog with read-alikes, titles in series, reviews, virtual shelf browsing and more.

2009. Our Randquest.org research portal is launched.

2011. The library begins offering ebooks.

2012. The library offers its first mobile app, Library Anywhere, but adoption is limited.

2013. Downloadable audiobooks and electronic magazines are added to the collection.

2013. iPads are deployed in the Asheboro Children's Room, and over the next year to all libraries.

2015. The library adds the Enterprise discovery catalog, which offers enhanced search capabilities and seamlessly integrates our ebook and e-audiobook collections.

2016. The REAL2 project gives students in the city and county

school systems, and Uwharrie Charter Academy, access to electronic resources and the ability to check out books using their student ID number instead of a traditional library card.

2017. The North Carolina Public Library Directors Association launches the NC KIDS Digital Library, the first statewide children's ebook library in the nation.

2019. The Asheboro library offers laptop checkout for in-house use. In 2021, in-house lending is expanded to all libraries.*

2019. A more robust library mobile app, Blue Cloud Mobile, becomes available.

2023. The library offers self-checkout following Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tagging of 275,723 physical items in the collection.*

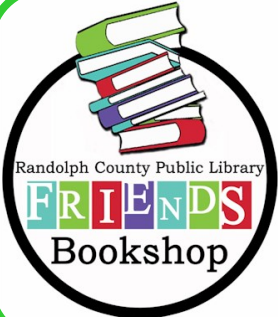
2024 and on... what's next?

Randolph County Public Libraries

201 Worth Street
Asheboro, NC 27203

Return Service Requested

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



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

memorials & donations

In Memory of: Johnny Everett Auman
By: H. Frank Auman III
Teresa Hodgins

In Memory of: Anissa Lowe
By: Diane Trogdon and Annette Beard

In Memory of: Cornelia (Neil) Rankin
By: Carey and Billie Durham
Sam and Missy Rankin

In Memory of: Harriett Allender Steil
By: Ralph and Jane Eddy

To: Community Navigator Program
By: Oakhurst Baptist Church

To the Friends of the Library

In Memory of: Cornelia (Neil) Rankin
By: Bob and Jane Darwin

In Memory of Elaine T. Provancha
By: Elizabeth P. and John W. Provancha

In Memory of: Theresa Burton Mitchell
By: Elizabeth P. and John W. Provancha

Take nutrition beyond the plate at Liberty

♣ Learn about "Nutrition Beyond the Plate," 2:30 p.m. Thursday, March 21 at Liberty.

Jennifer Holmes, N.C. Cooperative Extension agent, will talk about the nutritional value of plants you can grow at home, and meals you can create with their produce. Participants can take home seeds and learn more about Liberty's seed library.

Call 336-622-4605 to sign up.