

# Elliot Engel goes to Mayberry

*Literary lecturer to explore Andy Griffith and his show*

♣ Andy Griffith was a brilliant movie and stage actor, but he is a Hollywood immortal and North Carolina cultural icon thanks to *The Andy Griffith Show*, which aired from 1960-1968.

Combine Andy with the state's most popular literary lecturer and you have "Andy Griffith: Master of Mayberry with Dr. Elliot Engel," at 7 p.m. Thursday, October 10, 2019, at the Asheboro library.

Engel's talk, which is free and open to the public, is the second installment in the Ann Sigman Shaffner Literary Series, sponsored by a generous gift to the Friends of the Library from Anne's family. Shaffner, who passed away in 2018, was passionate about helping others through volunteering with various community organizations, including the Friends of the Library.

In his talk, Engel not only analyzes Andy's astonishing early life which led to his television triumph, but also



Dr. Elliot Engel

reveals little-known facts about the show's production and its enduring fame.

Originally from Indianapolis, Indiana, Engel now lives in Raleigh, North Carolina. He has taught at the University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University, and Duke University. He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow at UCLA, where he won that university's Outstanding Teacher Award.

Engel has written 10 books, four of his plays have been produced in the last 10 years, and his mini-lecture series on Charles Dickens ran on PBS television stations. He has lectured throughout the United States and on all continents — including Antarctica.

He has received numerous awards for his scholarship and teaching, and since 1980 has served as president of the Dickens Fellowship of North Carolina. Sales of his books and recordings have raised funds for the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, which Dickens helped found in London in 1852.

## Archaeologist to examine Historic Bethabara diversity

♣ Artifacts recovered from the Bethabara historic site in Forsyth County offer a glimpse into the relationships between the village's Moravian founders, their Cherokee neighbors and enslaved Africans who toiled in the fields and workshops.

Dr. Andrew Gurstelle, director of the Museum of Anthropology at Wake Forest University, will explore this dynamic in "A House Divided: Tri-Racial Tensions at Historic

Bethabara," at 6:30 p.m. Monday, September 30, at the Asheboro library. The talk is free and the public is invited.

Gurstelle, whose research focuses on the rise of kingdoms and empires in West Africa, the early slave trade, and Indian Removal policies in the 19th century U.S., will explore how the Moravian colonization of the area in the mid-1700s sheds light on the impact of the Cherokee removal and African-American emancipation in the 19th century.

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***Friends to host studio visit with potter Ben Owen III*** — see back page

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 Fax 336-318-6823  
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*from  
the  
director*

**Ross A. Holt**



# Seagrove's Barbara Luther retires

♣ **At the Seagrove library, Barbara Luther told stories to a generation of children.**

And their children.  
 And their children's children.

She often told the stories dressed as a pirate. Or a turkey. Or some other outlandish character.

After 34 years with the library, Barbara will retire on September 30.

Barbara began working at the library in 1985, recruited by then-librarian Louise Bell, who asked her to take on the library's storytimes.

Realizing that it would be difficult to get children to the library in a rural area with lots of working moms, and kids in daycare or staying with grandparents and babysitters, Barbara struck a deal with Seagrove Elementary School to bring students to her storytimes — and a tradition began. To make the stories more exciting, she made her own costumes to go with the stories.

Barbara continued her work under Bell's successor, Glenda Lilly, who passed away in 2002.

The library originally was located in the Seagrove Grange Hall, a cinderblock building south of the school. Storytime was held in the basement, and preparation sometimes



**Barbara Luther**

meant sweeping water out of the back door after heavy rains.

In 2005, the library moved into its new (and current) building next door to the school, and Barbara became full time manager.

Barbara says she has enjoyed helping library patrons over the years and getting to know the families that visit the library. Also rewarding is "being able to hold little babies and see them grow and start school," Barbara says.

She has especially liked assisting kids with school

work, or just helping them find the right book to read. "So many of the children are shy when they start using the library," she says, "but when they get to know us you can see them come out of the shy shell — so exciting."

As part of library work, Barbara has been active on the Seagrove Heritage Committee, collecting, preserving and displaying artifacts and written information about Seagrove's unique history.

She also served six terms on the town's Board of Aldermen, part of that time serving as mayor pro-tem.

In retirement, Barbara plans to spend time with her family, going to see her grandchildren playing sports, and being outdoors doing yard work.

# Cooking series wins state Extension award

♣ A series of hands-on cooking classes sponsored by the library and Randolph County Cooperative Extension has won a statewide award.



Meghan Carter and Jeannie Leonard.

The classes — five in the fall of 2016 and four in the fall of 2017 — received the Community Partnership Award from the N.C. Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Incorporating concepts from the Eat Smart, Move More, Weigh Less

program, the classes covered such topics as canning, crockpot meals, stir-fry, soup, holiday appetizers, freezer meals, grilling, yeast bread making, and cooking with herbs. The Library's Head of Reference Meghan Carter organized the series with Family and Consumer Services Agent Jeannie Leonard, who taught them.

Sponsored by the library's Margaret C. Taylor Culinary Arts Collection, the classes were offered at no cost to attendees.

## Learn about bats in Asheboro library talk

*...and other exciting events for all ages around the county*

♣ Go batty over the "Masters of the Night," at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 15, as two N.C. Zoo education specialists talk all about bats.

The talk is free and the public is invited. Wendy Green Foley, who has worked with bats for 12 years, and Nicole Peterson, a self-described "bird nerd," will explore the skills and senses of the incredible animals in a fun and exciting program. The educators will shed light on what's really going on with our backyard neighbors, and discuss the role of bats in the environment and how people can help them.

### Halloween at the libraries

Kids can visit the libraries for some not-so-spooky Halloween activities in October.

Archdale will host its annual **Halloween Party**, 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, October 29. Costumes optional.

Liberty is offering a **Community Helpers Trick or Treat** at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, October 30 for children; dress up for a trick or treat parade. For teens, it's **Halloween Makeup Effects** with Anna Folwell at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 29.

Randleman will have some seasonal fun with a **Haunted Tower**, 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 29.

In Asheboro it's **Pumpkin Fest**, 4-5:30 p.m. Monday, October 28 — wear your costume and decorate a mini-pumpkin to take home. The Asheboro Children's Room also will host **Spooky Trivia Fun for the Whole Family** at 4 p.m. Wednesday, October 30. Create a trivia team, answer questions, win prizes! Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult participant.

### Archdale slates film nights

Friday Family Film Nights will resume at the Archdale library beginning October 18 with *A Dog's Journey*. Showtime is 7 p.m. Following will be *Frankenweenie*, October 25; *The LEGO Movie 2*, November 1; *Emma's Chance*, November 8; and *Arthur Christmas*, December 6.

### "Wing It" at Franklinville

Did you know that the fastest animal in the world is a bird? Gain a new appreciation for these winged creatures with NC Zoo educators at the Franklinville library, 4 p.m. Thursday, October 3. Call the library at 336-685-3100 to sign up.

*All libraries offer storytimes, special events, hands-on activities and other events for all ages. Details at [randolphlibrary.org](http://randolphlibrary.org) or visit your local library.*

## Book discussions

**Asheboro Reads:** *The Stationery Shop* by Marjan Kamail, 2 p.m. Tuesday, October 29.

**Book Break (Archdale):** *The Pioneers* by David McCullough, 2 p.m. Tuesday, October 8.

**Book Bites (Archdale) "Un-Book Club":** Talk about the most exciting or interesting book you've read since the last meeting. 2 p.m.

Tuesday, October 15.

### Liberty Book Club:

*Educated* by Tara Westover, 6 p.m. Thursday, October 24.

### Tai Chi

The Randleman library will offer a 10-week course on "Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention" at 10:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, October 7 thru December 11. The one hour classes, for adults at risk of falling or those with musculoskeletal conditions, will be taught by a certified instructor in conjunction with the Piedmont Triad Council on Aging. Call 336-498-3141 to sign up.

### Genealogy

Learn about DNA tests in **DNA 101**, 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 9, at the Asheboro library; and 1:30 p.m. Thursday, October 24, at the Asheboro Senior Center.

Liberty will offer basic genealogy in **Climbing Your Family Tree**, at 2:30 p.m. Monday, October 21.

## Liberty library receives Diverse Books grants for kids' literature

The Liberty library has received a \$1,000 Diverse Books grant from the Youth Services Section of the North Carolina Library Association. The grant will fund a core collection of books for

children age birth through 12th grade featuring diverse characters and authors.

Liberty was one of five applicants selected.



## Friends to offer 'Studio Sip and Stroll' with master potter Ben Owen III

♣ The Friends of the Library will host a "Studio Sip and Stroll" with renowned master potter Ben Owen III, 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 23.

The tour, open to 25 participants, is free but tickets are required. Tickets are available now at the Asheboro library Circulation Desk; there is a limit of two per person.

Owen will demonstrate some of the techniques he uses in creating pottery masterpieces that are in high demand all over the world. Following the demonstration, participants can stroll the retail gallery.

A light Southern tea will be served.

Owen's studio is located at 105 Ben's Place in Seagrove. Travel to the studio is on your own.

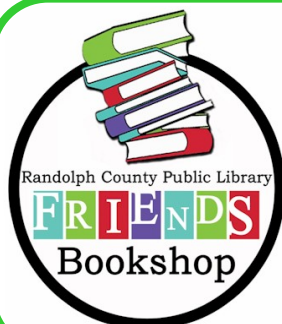


### Randolph County Public Library

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## memorials & donations

**In Memory of: Marian Tillman**  
By: Betsy Parks

**In Memory of: Margaret Wright**  
By: Happy Bookers Book Club

**In Honor of: Barbara A. Luther**  
By: Suzanne Tate and Philip Shore

## Russia expert to explore Soviets in WWII

♣ The Soviet Union's contribution in World War II, and its influence on war crimes trials that followed will be the topic of a talk by Dr. Thomas Earl Porter of N.C. A & T University, 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 21, at the Asheboro library.

The talk is free and the public is invited. Porter, professor of Russian and Modern European

History, and author of several books and more than 50 articles, will discuss the fate of Soviet POWs in Nazi Germany, as well as the legal groundwork and evidence collection undertaken by the Soviets for the Nuremberg war crimes trials. He also will touch on Soviet efforts to minimize the assault on Russian Jewry by the Germans, and share some little-known aspects of the ensuing cold war between the US and the USSR.