



# All roads lead to Johnstonville

## Local historian Ryan Beeson to explore first county seat

♣ Before Asheboro was established in 1793, Randolph County government called Johnstonville home.

The first county seat was located about two miles west of present-day Randleman, on old U.S. 311, about where the WGHP Fox8 transmission towers stand.

Local historian Ryan Beeson will explore the origins of the settlement in “Johnstonville: Randolph’s First County Seat at the Crossroads of North Carolina” at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, November 14, at the Asheboro library.

Before it was named Johnstonville, after the governor at the time of its founding, the place was known as Cross Roads because it sat at the junction of two important byways, the Indian Trading Path and the Cape Fear or Old Moravian Road. The Indian Trading Path predated European exploration and settlement, and the Old Moravian Road was established in 1754 to link Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) with the Moravian settlements that would become Winston-Salem.

Beeson will talk about the importance of these roads in



Ryan Beeson

colonial and post-colonial North Carolina, and why their intersection was chosen for Randolph County’s first courthouse and county seat.

He also will illuminate early sessions of the county court at Johnstonville, illustrate the layout of the town based on his extensive research, and discuss its likely exact location.

A Randolph County native, Beeson grew up on a dairy farm in Sophia. A history enthusiast, he spends his free time researching local history from the Colonial era through the American Revolution.

A descendant of many early Quaker settlers of North Carolina, he also enjoys researching genealogy and Quaker history.

He is a birthright member of Marlboro Friends Meeting, where he serves on Ministry & Counsel.

After graduating Randleman High School, he earned a B.A. in Political Science and a M.S. in Accounting from East Carolina University, where he served as president of the student body.

He lives in Asheboro with his wife Claire and their son Winslow.

# Bestselling author Charlie Lovett to visit Liberty

♣ The Liberty Book Club will host *New York Times* bestselling author Charlie Lovett at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, November 21, and the public is invited.

Lovett will discuss his book *The Enigma Affair* and talk about his writing. The event will take place in the Liberty Town Council Chamber/Senior Center beside the library.

Lovett also is author of the novels *The Bookman’s Tale*,



Charlie Lovett

*Escaping Dreamland* and *The Lost Book of the Grail*.

He has penned five books on *Alice in Wonderland* author Lewis Carroll, including the biography *Lewis Carroll: Formed by Faith*, and has lectured internationally on Carroll.

He’s also a playwright, and recently adapted *Escaping Dreamland* for the stage at the Little Theatre of Winston-Salem.

A Winston-Salem native, Lovett is a graduate of Davidson College and the Vermont Academy of Fine Arts.

## 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, 9-7, Tues 11-7,  
Wed, 9-5, Thur 11-5  
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

# Asheboro HVAC to be replaced

♣ **Lamenting “things they don’t teach you in library school” is a common refrain among librarians.**

One of those things, many library directors come to find out, is the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) of library buildings.

At the Asheboro library, we know only too well the vicissitudes of trying to keep a large building comfortable year-round. Sometimes, I feel like I ought to have earned a degree in HVAC.

Now, our venerable HVAC system — a hybrid between a boiler for heat installed when the original building was built in 1964 and a chiller for air conditioning that came with the 1994 expansion — is at the end of its life.

The library is a Randolph County agency operating in a City of Asheboro facility. The city has always been there with funding when a major component needed replacement to keep our HVAC system in shape.

The Randolph County Maintenance Department, meanwhile, has done an outstanding job of keeping the system functioning over the years, from figuring out problems to replacing parts and making major repairs.

Beginning in mid-November, the entire system will be replaced with new, roof-mounted, gas-fired heat pumps in a project funded by the City of Asheboro. The general contractor is 35° North of Durham.

Work will get underway during the week of November 18, and is expected to be

complete by January 12.

Preparation of the roof will take place during the last half of November. The first week in December will see the demolition of the old system, including the boiler and chiller in the furnace room downstairs and air handling units over the main floor.

The new system will be installed during the rest of December, with electrical and control system work in early January.

We generally expect to remain open during the work, although there may be periods that the library is not available. Once the old system is out in early December, the city will provide portable heating units around the building in case the weather is less than temperate.

We also expect some disruptions to our work flows, especially as the overhead units are removed; the contractors have alerted us that areas underneath will be barricaded for safety as the work takes place above our ceiling.

So you may see service points, such as checkout and holds pick-ups, in different locations with temporary set-ups.

The northern section of the library parking lot, near Salisbury Street, will be set aside for construction parking, and a construction dumpster will be located there. The new units will be placed on the roof by crane, so there may be street closures or restrictions during this process.

We will work closely with the contractors to alert you about any hiccups in library service, secure in the knowledge that we soon will be toasty warm or totally chill, as the case may be.



# Archdale, Franklinville host book sales

## Friends Bookshop to hold Christmas on Sunset sale

♣ Looking for a great way to support your library while getting a head start on holiday shopping?

Check out the deals at Franklinville and Archdale library book sales in November, and take 50 percent off at the Friends of the Library bookshop during Asheboro's Christmas on Sunset in December.

Archdale's semi-annual sale will take place from Saturday, November 2-Wednesday, November 6. Find amazing deals on books, magazines and more, with all proceeds supporting library programs for the community. Mass market paperbacks are \$0.25; magazines are \$0.10;

everything else is \$1. Fill a bag for \$5 on Monday, November 4; \$3 on Tuesday, November 5; and \$1 Wednesday, November 6.

The Franklinville Library Book Sale will take place from Wednesday-Wednesday, November 20-27. Proceeds support library programs. Hardcover are \$2; paperbacks \$0.50 to \$1; and DVDs \$2. Starting Saturday, November 23, fill a bag for \$5.

At The Friends of the Library Bookshop, it's 50 percent off everything during Asheboro's Christmas on Sunset celebration, 6-9 p.m. Friday, December 13. The half-off sale carries on from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, December 14.

# Randleman to celebrate local veterans

## ...and other activities around the county

♣ The Randleman library will celebrate stories of local veterans in "Defenders of Freedom" at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 12.

North Randolph Historical Society members Louise Hudson and Danny Whatley will share pictures, stories, artifacts and short biographies of veterans who fought for our freedom. After the presentation, audience members will be invited to share personal memories.

Space is limited; call 336-498-3141 to sign up. Best for ages 16 and up.

### Book clubs for kids, teens

**Liberty: Manga Meet-Up at the Library**, 1 p.m. Saturday, November 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, November 15, 6th-8th graders. Bring a book to share.

**Seagrove: Books and Banter**, 4:30 p.m.

Thursdays. Talk about what you're reading with other teens.

### 12 Books Before Christmas

The Liberty library will specially wrap 12 books for families to unwrap and share for each of the 12 days before Christmas. Packages for Hanukkah or Kwanzaa also are available. Sign up by December 3 to pick up packages already checked out to you between December 9-12.

### Red Bountiful Acres discussion

The Randleman library will host a discussion of the book *Red Bountiful Acres* by Helen Heyes for children in grades 3-8 at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 19. The book offers young readers a taste of farm life in the North Carolina Piedmont through the eyes of two families — one black and one white — during the year 1900.

Space is limited; call 336-498-3141 to sign up. The event is sponsored by North Carolina Humanities 2024 *Great Reads from Great Places* program.



## Book discussions

**Asheboro Reads, Afternoon Edition: *Drowning*** by T.J. Newman, 2 p.m. Tuesday, November 26.

**Asheboro Reads, Evening Edition: *The Only Woman in the Room*** by Marie Benedict, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 20.

**Archdale Book Break: *The All Girls Filling Station Last Reunion*** by Fannie Flagg, 2 p.m. Tuesday, November 19.

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

**Liberty Book Club: Talk** with Author Charlie Lovett, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, November 21 (see front page).

**Liberty Readers Meet-Up: *Counting Miracles*** by Nicholas Sparks, 1 p.m. Monday, November 25, Liberty Senior Center.

## BYO book groups

Talk about books that you've read recently.

**Archdale: Book Bites**, 2 p.m. Tuesday, November 12.

**Ramseur Page Turners**, 2 p.m. Tuesday, November 5.

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

**Seagrove: Un-Book Club**, *Mysterries*, 6 p.m. Tuesday, November 19.

## Make some costume jewelry art at Asheboro

Create a costume jewelry collage in a 5"x7" picture frame, in "Costume Jewelry Art," 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 13, at the Asheboro library. Jewelry and other supplies will be provided, but you also can bring your own jewelry (without backing pins). Space is limited to 10 participants age 18 and up; call 336-318-6803 to reserve a spot. Supported by the Friends of the Library.

## Archdale to host part-time, seasonal job fair

♣ Looking to earn some extra cash for the holidays, or to gain work experience without going full-time?

The Archdale library will host a Part-Time/Seasonal Job Fair from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 19.

The event will connect local businesses ready to hire for the busy season ahead with those seeking seasonal or part-time work opportunities, offering workers a chance to explore flexible job opportunities in the community.

## Groups raise funds for Liberty Snack Sacks

♣ Help fight food insecurity with two opportunities to donate to Liberty library's Snack Sack program.

Spark Cup of Joy coffee shop will host a Paint and Sip event at 1 p.m. Saturday, November 2. Contribute \$25 and receive a canvas for the event. Call 336-622-7446 to register. Sandy Creek Plumbing will host a Quarter Auction at the Staley Fire Department, noon-3 p.m. Saturday, November 9. Entry is \$3 or 3 items from the Snack Sack wish list; additional paddles are \$1 each.

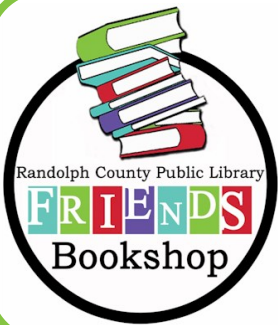
The library's Snack Sack program provides lunch replacement sacks that don't require heat or refrigeration.

### Randolph County Public Libraries

201 Worth Street  
Asheboro, NC 27203

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**10 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**Tuesday,  
Thursday,  
Saturday**  
226 Sunset Ave.  
Asheboro  
[randolphfriends.org](http://randolphfriends.org)

## memorials & donations

### Juanita Kessler

*We remember retired Randolph Room staff member Juanita Kessler, who passed away on September 14 at the age of 95. Juanita was our expert genealogist for 24 years before her retirement in 2016.*

In Memory of: Linda Cockerham  
By: Ann and Dennis Gardner

In Memory of: Margery Ross  
By: Bill Collins

In Memory of: Venetia Smith

By: Ann Honer  
Katherine and George McDowell  
Seagrove Ladies Book Club

In Memory of: Russell Thompson Williams

By: Bob and Marty Williams

### *To the Friends of the Library*

**To the Friends of the Library**  
By: Bob and Janet Reese

### 'Night at the Museum'

♣ Step into history with a "Night at the Museum," 5-7 p.m.

**Tuesday, November 12, at the Archdale library.**

The event will feature fascinating exhibits from area institutions including the Greensboro Science Center, Reynolda House and the International Civil Rights Museum.

From scientific wonders to artistic treasures to pivotal moments in civil rights history, the event promises something for all ages.