



Comic-Con, Ren Fair, to join forces in Archdale

♣ Get ready for a one-of-a-kind adventure as the third annual Randolph County Public Libraries Youth Services Comic-Con moves to Archdale, and teams up with a Renaissance Fair for an epic outdoor celebration of creativity, fantasy and fun, 1-5 p.m. Saturday, May 17.

The all-ages, family-friendly event will feature 25 comic book authors, illustrators and other creators who will demonstrate their techniques and display their work, which will be available for purchase.

Booths will include original art, rare comics, toys, books, retro video games and other merchandise. Participants can join in activities such as special effects makeup demos, trivia games, a themed selfie station and a caricature station.

At the same time, the Middle Ages will come to life at the Renaissance Fair. Booths will feature handmade jewelry, ceramics, resin art, gem trees, and baked goods. Activities will include crafts, juggling demonstrations throughout the day, fantasy-themed costumes with photo-ops galore, and a costume contest.

Ruff Love Rescue will be present with adoptable rescue dogs. The library will be open special hours to coincide with the event. The schedule:



G-Man series graphic novel author Chris Gairrusso signs copies of his books at last year's Comic-Con, as his character bursts onto the scene.

- 1 p.m.: Library and vendor booths open.
- 2 p.m.: Comic trivia with prizes.
- 3 p.m.: Interactive storytime for all ages.
- 4 p.m.: Costume contest with prizes.
- 5 p.m.: Library closes and vendor booths wrap up.

As of this writing, artists, authors and others participating this year include:

Astro Rose, author/artist; **Micki Bare**, middle-grades author; **Beardy Weirdy's Comics and Toys**; **Blink on the Street**, ceramics; **Braids of Yarrow**, jewelry; **Caricatures by Rodney Bennett**; **Centfont's Stuff**, jewelry; **Clay by Kelly**, clay earrings and accessories; **K.S. Harvin**, author; **Healy Crafts**, jewelry, gem trees and other items; **Heart Shine Studios**, art and jewelry; **Herndon's Homestead**, sourdough baked goods; **J&M Bakehouse**, baked goods and pastries; **Jamie's Jewelry and More**;

A.D. Lombardo, books, bookmarks and journals; **LimeLife by Alcone and Jensfk**, makeup and face painting; **Odyssey Comics**, author/artist; **Michael Roberti**, author; **Rocks Unlimited**, jewelry and stones; **Gene Shanks**, comic book author/artist; **Snailz Art**, art; **sparkle-series**, handmade jewelry; **The Bubbles Boutique**, jewelry and 3D printed items; **T-Rex Comics**, comics and toys.

Rain date for the event is Saturday, May 24, 2-6 pm.



RANDOLPH COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARIES



We're listening –
TELL US HOW WE'RE DOING!

Take a BRIEF SURVEY at
randolphlibrary.org/survey25 or scan the QR Code.



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201 Worth St.
Mon-Thur 9-9; Fri 9-6;
Sat 9-1

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Fri 9-5, Sat 9-3

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Fax 336-824-2232
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Sat 9-1

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142 W. Academy St.
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Sat 9-1

336-873-7521
530 Old Plank Rd.
Tues-Fri 10-6; Sat 11-3

336-318-6816 or 336-318-6817; Mon-Fri 9-5

Ross A. Holt



Safe

♣ Like our cute pup on the front page, our ears are always perked up for feedback from our patrons and the community at large.

Every April, we offer you a formal way to communicate with us through our Patron Satisfaction Survey.

How are your interactions with our various service areas — frontline, information, children's, programming, Extension Services and the Randolph Room?

What does the library mean to you?
What do we do best, and what could we do
better? What else would you like to say?

If you haven't already, please share your thoughts with us at www.randolphlibrary.org/survey25.

Sometimes an oft-repeated word in the survey stands out, even if it doesn't immediately jump to the prominence of the big ones in the accompanying word cloud showing the frequency of terms used in last year's responses. In last year's survey and this year's so far, one of those words is *safe* — the library is a *safe* place.

“A safe place to explore, spark curiosity, learn something new, and feel a sense of community. An invaluable resource,” said a Franklinville respondent last year.

An Asheboro patron said, “Connects me with information, helps with technology, provides a safe space and adds to our community.”



Many of the comments relate to the library as a safe place for children. From this year:

"I appreciate that the library is a safe, happy and educational place for children and all members of the community."

“Randleman library means a safe place for my teens that is inclusive and helpful. It is exactly what I expect from a public resource, if not more!”

In many responses, indeed, *safe* is paired with *learn* — a safe place for kids to learn (many of these also mention *fun*):

"It's a safe place for my kids to enjoy books, learn more, and make new friends."

“A safe place to take my children to learn. A place where we come to find books and spend time reading together.”

"It's a safe place to learn and grow. It is one of my child's favorite places, and she asks to go at least once a week...."

"The library has always been a safe place to learn and explore. I remember how excited I was to get my first library card and it has been wonderful to see my daughter learn to love the library."

And from last year: "The library is a place where my children can grow, develop and learn. It is a place where my children can have fun and be safe... The library is all that I could ask for as a parent raising children and developing them to be great members of society."



The **Randolph County Public Libraries NEWS** is published monthly by the Asheboro Randolph County Public Libraries and the Friends of the Library. To subscribe, scan the code at right to join the Friends, or visit randolphfriends.org.

Ross A. Holt, Director • A. Owen George III, President, Friends of the Library

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Prof to explore slavery in Revolution

♣ What did slavery look like to combatants in the Revolutionary War — white, Black, American and European — as they traveled between regions?



Ruddiman

Join Wake Forest University History professor Dr. Jake Ruddiman for “Is This the Land of Liberty? Soldiers and Slavery in the War of American Independence,” 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20, at the Asheboro library.

The talk, supported by the Friends of the Library, is free and the public is invited.

Ruddiman will discuss his research into the travel writing of soldiers during the war. The campaigns of the American Revolution

carried troops far from their homes and exposed them to unfamiliar enslaved societies. The writings shed light on what these military outsiders observed as the war profoundly disrupted the institution of slavery, spreading charged

rhetoric about liberty, levying new demands with mobilization and opening opportunities for freedom-seekers.

Ruddiman, who received his Ph.D. from Yale, is an associate professor of History at Wake Forest. His first book, *Becoming Men of Some Consequence: Youth and Military Service in the Revolutionary War*, explores the lives of young men in the Continental Army.

Liberty to hold Snack Sack fundraiser ...and other activities around the county

♣ Help combat food insecurity in the Liberty area with a Quarter Auction fundraiser, noon-3 p.m. Saturday, May 31, at the Staley Fire Department.

Proceeds benefit the Liberty library’s award-winning Snack Sack program, which provides kids with a healthy lunch substitute they can take home during summer months. The event is hosted by Sandy Creek Plumbing. Entry fee is \$3 or three items off the library’s Snack Sack wish list; additional paddles are \$1. There will be door prizes and a 50/50 drawing.

Liberty storytime time change

Liberty’s “Storytime at the Library” for children age 0-6 will now start at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Revolutionary Randolph

Join Randolph Room librarian Kendra Lyons for “Revolutionary Randolph,” 2 p.m. Sunday, May 18, at the St. Paul Museum in Randleman. Lyons will present stories of the Revolution in Randolph County.

Stuffed animal sleepover

Ever wonder what happens at the library after hours? Kids are invited to drop off stuffed animals at the Archdale library on Thursday, May 29, for a Stuffed Animal Sleep Over. Pick them up by 6 p.m. the next day, and enjoy photos taken by library staff of the animals’ adventures.

History of animation

Prepare for Comic-Con by learning about the history of animation with artist/educator Jo Knorpp, 3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 15, at the Asheboro library. Afterwards, pick up tips to create some animation with your very own flipbook. Best for ages 9-up.

May Day Garden Day

Weed and plant in the Asheboro library’s Children’s Learning Garden with horticulture expert Charity Cole, 3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 1. Bring tools, gloves and pots to take home some divided native plants for your garden. Best for ages 7-up.



Book discussions

Asheboro Reads:

Yellowface by R.F. Kuang, 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 27.

Archdale Book Break:

The Perfect Son by Freida McFadden, 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 20.

Franklinville: Snippets

Book Club. Discuss articles from *The Sun* magazine, 12:30 p.m. Monday, May 19.

Liberty Book Club:

Banyon Moon by Thao Thai, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 22.

Liberty Readers Meet-

Up: *Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhorn, 1 p.m. Monday, May 12, Liberty Senior Center.

BYO book groups

Talk about books that you’ve read recently.

Archdale: Book Bites,

2 p.m. Tuesday, May 13.

Archdale: Silent Book

Club, 10 a.m. Saturday, May 3.

Ramseur Page Turners,

2 p.m. Tuesday, May 6.

Randleman Readers

Recommend, 3:30 p.m. Friday, May 2.

Randleman Teen Talk

Book Club, 3:30 p.m. Friday, May 16, ages 11-15.

Seagrove: Un-Book

Club. Choose an Easter egg to find your next topic. 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 27.

Ramseur to host ‘School Appreciation Day’

Teachers and school staff at Ramseur area schools are invited to visit the library at their convenience on Wednesday, May 28, so that library staff can show them appreciation for their

hard work and dedication to children. Educators are invited to tour the library, hear about library services and receive a take-home survival kit while munching on Do-Nut treats.

Southbound FortyNine

Sunset Series to celebrate long-tenured band

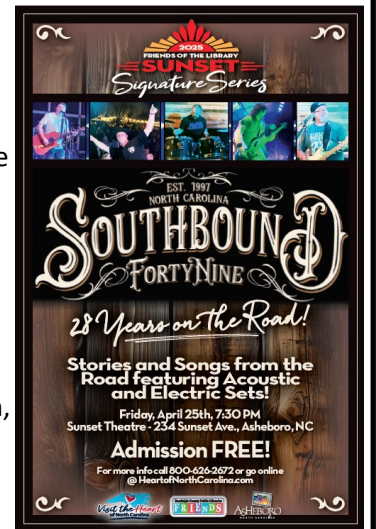
♣ In a late-breaking event, the Friends of the Library Sunset Signature Series will showcase the Asheboro-based band Southbound FortyNine.

The performance, featuring songs and stories from the band's 28 years on the road, will take place at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 25, at the historic Sunset Theatre, 234 Sunset Avenue in Asheboro.

The Sunset Series is sponsored by the

Heart of North Carolina Visitors Bureau, the City of Asheboro and the Friends of the Library. Its goal is to bring culturally significant speakers and performers to Asheboro.

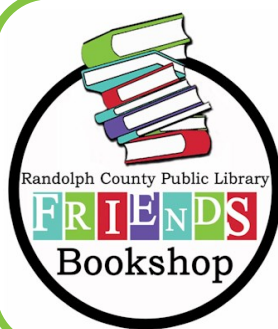
A popular North Carolina party band, Southbound FortyNine was established in 1997. Band members include Heath Wilson, vocals; Eric McCain, keyboards, guitar; Adam West, bass; Brian Ingold, guitar; and James Elliott, drums.



Randolph County Public Libraries

201 Worth Street
Asheboro, NC 27203

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Ramseur Public Library Staff

To: Ramseur Public Library
By: Coleridge Lions Club
Ramseur Area Civitans

In Honor of: Kendra Lyons
By: Charlotte A. Steele

To the Friends of the Library

In Honor of: Allie Corder
By: The Thursday Study Club

Ramseur refresh

Bob Armfield scrapes away old paint at the Ramseur library in preparation for a new paint job. Bob's wife Betty Jo, a Randolph County Public Libraries trustee, recruited her husband and other volunteers, with the support of Mayor Hampton Spivey, to refresh the exterior of the building. Recently the town installed improved railings for the concrete steps on the south side of the library.

