



Sidewalk Chalk

Monthly e-newsletter

OUR VISION

All children in Randolph County enter kindergarten healthy & ready to succeed in school and life.

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"Spring unlocks the flowers to paint the laughing soil."

—*Bishop Reginald Heber*

Inspirations

Every year at this time, as the weather warms, the days lengthen, and color bursts out in bits of glory nearly everywhere we look, the anticipation of springtime fills my psyche with a sense of joy, optimism, and, of course, renewal. What a beautiful, uplifting time of year. The past few mornings I have awoken not to my obligatory alarm but rather to the sweet song of a robin redbreast. Last weekend I spent the warmest part of an afternoon watching eastern bluebirds fluttering about the half dozen or so birdhouses at my mom's. She and I laughed as we watched the birds peer inside, dart in for a moment, and then fly on to the next box, clearly checking out the real estate for near-future nesting. And although I'm careful not to disturb what I think I'm seeing, I'm pretty sure the woven clumps of grass and fur in the large planter in my



backyard is a rabbit's nest, perhaps occupied by the same bunny that birthed her babies there last year, too.

At the Randolph Partnership, as in nature, spring brings a whirl of activity. All of a sudden we are wrapping up the current school year and fiscal year and simultaneously preparing for the next. There are added layers of work, yet it feels good—knowing we still have time to dot our i's and make the impacts we want to make for this year and to also have the sense of hopefulness anew that comes with visioning, planning, budgeting, and thinking ahead.

Early childhood, in my eyes, is humanity's spring. There is so much hopefulness and optimism in early childhood because every child is born with limitless potential to *do well* and to *do good* in this world. Every child is wondrous and wonderful. It's our job as the adults to make sure every opportunity in early childhood is maximized for every child. And in Randolph County, we do this work collectively. Together. To all the Partnership's collaborators and partners, I thank you for all you do to help young children and their families.

To you and yours, I wish you the very happiest of springtimes.

Lisa Kayworth

Executive Director
Randolph Partnership for Children

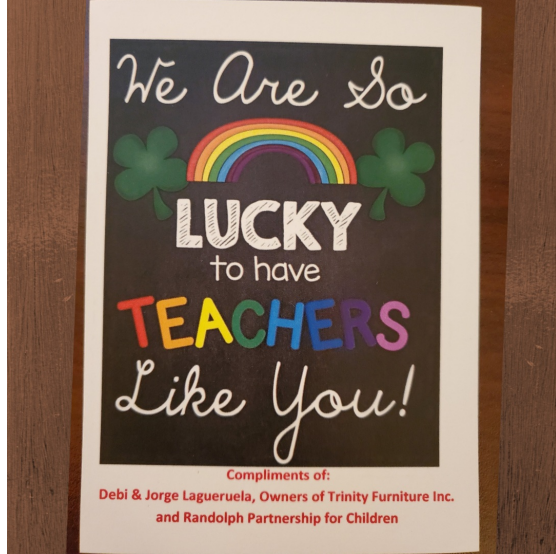
Heroes Recognition

Child Care Services staff at the Partnership are dropping off gift bags of peat pots, vegetable seeds, and a pot of (chocolate) gold to Randolph County's child care providers this week. This month's "HEROES" appreciation outreach was sponsored by Debi & Jorge Lagueruela, owners of Trinity Furniture.

Thank you to our March
**CHILD CARE
PROVIDER HEROES**
sponsor:



T R I N I T Y
FURNITURE INCORPORATED



Early Educator Scholarship



On January 26, we lost a beloved colleague and friend, Susan Harris Helsabeck.

Susan served as the Professional Development Specialist for 5 years. During that time, she encouraged and assisted early childhood classroom staff attain credentials and degrees in the early education field.

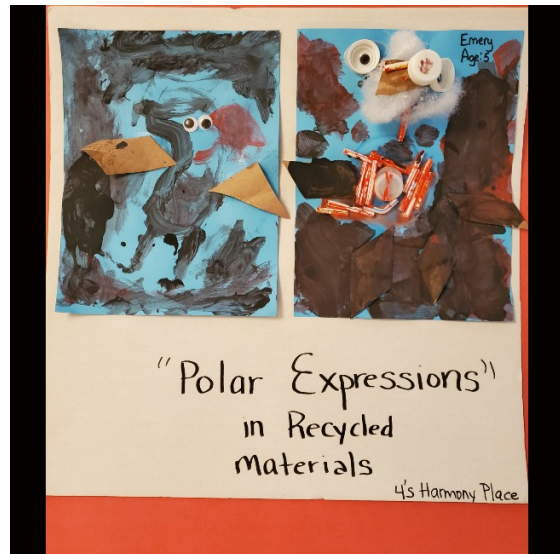
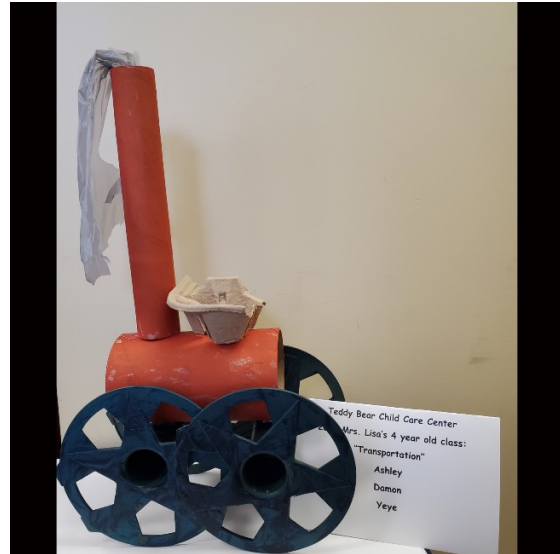
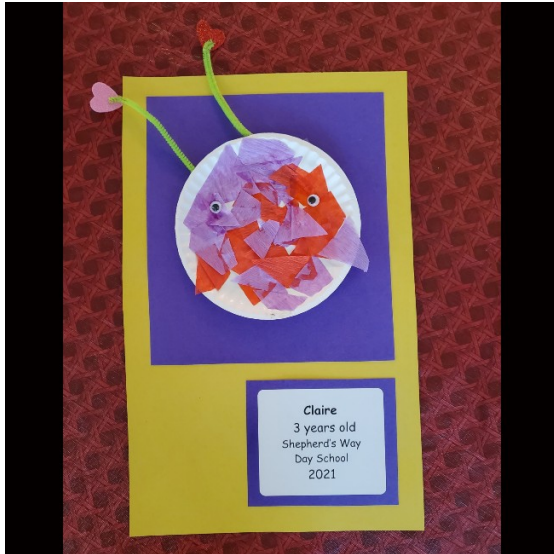
She also celebrated the achievements of our early childhood workforce during the annual [Night of the Stars](#) event.

Her dedication and passion for supporting early educators led to donations being made to the Partnership in her memory. As generous donations began arriving, seeds were planted in the minds of our staff. Wouldn't it be great if we could support early educators with these funds? As we brainstormed how best to honor Susan's memory, those seeds grew into a project that will support Randolph County's early educators for years to come.

Randolph Partnership for Children announces the Susan Harris Helsabeck Scholarship Fund. Each year, beginning in 2022, a scholarship will be awarded to an early educator working to achieve a degree in early education. The specifics will be determined by a committee. In the meantime, if you are so moved, donations are now being accepted for for the Susan Harris Helsebeck Scholarship Fund. We've already got a great start thanks to the memorial gifts received upon Susan's passing.

[DONATE](#)

Art Explosion



Artwork created by infants, toddlers, and preschoolers will be on display in the windows of downtown Asheboro businesses throughout the month of April in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Week of the Young Child, April 12-17 this year.

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration coordinated by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, which is nearly 100,000 members strong and includes a network of more than 300 local, state, and regional affiliates.

Participating centers in this year's Art Exploding include First Church of God Day School, First Presbyterian Preschool, First United Methodist Preschool, Harmony Place, My Circle of Friends Enrichment Center, Noah's Ark Playschool, Precious Memories Preschool, Shepherd's Way Day School, Teddy Bear Child Care Center, The Growing Place Child Care Center, The Children's Center of Asheboro, Trin-Dale Children's Center, and Victory Baptist Child Development Center.

Art Explosion encourages the creativity and self expression of our local

children. Partnership staff and volunteers mount and organize the art, then hang it in the windows of participating local businesses. Once the artwork is up, downtown is transformed into a month-long outdoor art gallery for everyone to enjoy!

Gardening with Infants & Toddlers



On March 11, Scarlet Welborn, Infant-Toddler TA Specialist, talked with WGHP Fox 8's Cindy Farmer about the benefits of gardening with little ones during the morning news show's Mommy Matters segment.

Gardening is a great way to engage all the senses, which is exactly what infants and toddlers need. During Mommy Matters, Scarlet and Cindy discussed why it's so important involve Baby in gardening, especially as we move into spring. They talked about tactile and sensory learning, building pride and independence, and self-regulation.

[READ MORE](#)

NC Pre-K Registration Events

Registration for NC Pre-K for the 2021-22 year is happening now! There are 373 available slots in Randolph County for five sites in Asheboro, two in Trinity, and one each in Level Cross, Liberty, Ramseur, and Randleman.

To assist families with registration, we are planning drive-through registration events through June. During these events, families can bring applications, pick-up applications, and get questions answered.

Drive-through registration events at the Partnership office, 349 Sunset Ave., Asheboro, are planned for **Tuesday, March 23 from 3-5 PM** and **Wednesday,**

April 14 from 10 AM-1 PM.

In addition, drive-through registration events in Randleman, Liberty, Ramseur, and Seagrove are in the works as well as two more at the Partnership office.

Please contact Cindy Shoe at cshoe@randolphkids.org or 336-629-2128 x11 with questions about NC Pre-K registration!

[LEARN MORE ABOUT NC PRE-K](#)

Rootle's Block Party LIVE! At Home



COMING SOON! Get ready for the next episode of Rootle's Block Party LIVE! At Home, featuring families and agencies from Randolph County!

Read-a-roo will be on your screen soon with hands-on activities and fun, this time with friends from Randolph County, including RhinoLeap, the Randolph County Public Library, and the North Carolina Zoo!

This episode will also feature content from Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood, built around the Watch Play Explore Share learning model, as well as content showcasing kindness and generosity.

Don't miss out! The Randolph County edition of Rootle's Block Party LIVE! At Home premieres **Saturday, March 27** on PBS NC and Rootle at 9 AM.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Save the Date

We are excited to announce our **2021 Gala for the Children** planned for **Saturday, August 21!**



Acme-McCrary &
Sapona Foundation, Inc.

As we kick off planning, we already have our first Presenting Sponsor, **Acme-McCrary & Sapona Foundation**. This is the Foundation's 10th year as a Gala for the Children sponsor and their 4th consecutive year as a Presenting Sponsor!

We are also honored to have **Nicki and Brian Hill** serving as our Gala for the Children Chairs for 2021. This year's theme is **IF YOU GIVE**, inspired by the works of children's book author Laura Numeroff.



Our 2021 committee chairs, henceforth known together with our Gala Chairs as the **2021 Dream Team**, are:

Shannon McCrary, Sustainability Committee Chair

Felicia Barlow, Auction Committee Chair

Kim Kramer, Theme Committee Chair

With the pandemic still affecting in-person gatherings, we're planning a hybrid event. The Gala for the Children will again be live-streamed on YouTube and through Greater Giving for at-home viewers and donors.

In addition, we are optimistic that we'll be able to invite VIP sponsors to attend live in the studio, where a catered meal and exclusive silent auction will be hosted.

Similar to 2020, an online auction will open a week ahead of the event and conclude prior to the live event. The live event will again include our Fund-A-Need auction for Early Literacy, a few live auction items, and the announcement of our Volunteer of the Year.

BECOME A SPONSOR

AUCTION DONATIONS

Penciled In

- **Wed., March 17, 11 AM:** Family Engagement &

Leadership Coalition

- **Thurs., March 18, 1 PM:** Sustainability Committee
- **Tues., March 23, 8:15 AM:** Board of Directors
- **Tues., March 23, 3-5 PM:** NC Pre-K Drive-Through Registration
- **Thurs., March 25, 4 PM:** Randolph ChAMPS
- **Tues., April 6, 1 PM:** Grant Review Committee
- **April 10-16:** Week of the Young Child
- **Wed., April 14, 10 AM-1 PM:** NC Pre-K Drive-Through Registration
- **Mon., April 19, 1 PM:** NC Pre-K Committee
- **Tues., April 20, 8:15 AM:** Board of Directors
- **Wed., April 21, 11 AM:** Family Engagement & Leadership Coalition



[Visit our Calendar](#)

*Help us put kids first in
Randolph County!*

Donate

new & gently used books
new infant blankets
diapers

Shop

We're connected with [Amazon Smile](#), so when you shop and select Randolph County Partnership for Children, you're helping to raise money for literacy programs, parent support, early childhood professional development and NC Pre-K right here in Randolph County!



[SHOP NOW](#)

Randolph Partnership for Children | 349 Sunset Ave., Asheboro, NC 27203 | 336-629-2128

[Visit our website](#)