



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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"Everyone likes birds. What wild creature is more accessible to our eyes and ears, as close to us and everyone in the world, as universal as a bird?"

—David Attenborough

Inspirations

Did you know that the chicken is the most common species of bird found in the world?
Hummingbirds can fly backwards?
Woodpeckers have songs and calls, but their rapping or drilling on trees is also a source of communication?

I became a serious 'birder' years ago when I worked for Audubon in Miami. From incommensurably gorgeous flamingoes to the tiny, approachable chickadee, birds of all sizes and colors thrill and delight me.

Butterflies are equally fun to explore and discover and offer so many learning opportunities about our world – from ecology to symmetry, and of course,



about metamorphosis.

Birds and butterflies, quite literally, thousands of the reasons why this time of year speaks to my soul! High quality early education programs in our childcare centers and family homes take advantage of spring as a perfect time to help our young children learn through the exploration of nature.

Parents, grandparents, and caregivers can do similar things at home with their little ones. Young children are like scientists – always reaching, touching, wondering, and learning as they go. In our backyards, neighborhoods, and community parks, springtime offers lots of colors, textures, smells and sounds that bring out the sense of exploration and discovery in each of us. And every opportunity to explore is an opportunity to build children's brains. An infant, for example, may explore by reaching, touching, grasping, and crawling while a toddler may touch, dig, walk, and climb.

Birds and butterflies are just two of many beautiful things nature offers to explore through movement and play, but they are two of the very best things! For reasons why teachers, parents, extended family, and caregivers should spend time focusing on birds and butterflies with little ones as well as low and no cost ways to enjoy and explore birds and butterflies, [READ MORE](#) in our blog.

Lisa Hayworth

Executive Director

Night of the Stars Preview

Eleven early educators will be honored on Thursday, May 20 during the 18th annual Night of the Stars event. In addition to this year's graduates, those who were recognized at the 2020 virtual Night of the Stars event were invited to participate as honorees.

This year's event will be held at the RCC Archdale Center as an outdoor drive-in. The keynote speaker will be Tanya Dennis, who will address the theme for the evening, "From Chaos to Clarity: Building Connections."

The Night of the Stars event is planned each year by a committee of child care professionals and RPC staff. This year's committee members are: Andee Edelson, Emily Farr, Joy Johnson, Rebecca Jordan, Liz McLeod, Jamie Perez, Stephanie Rietschel, Heather Semler, Jennifer Spencer, Kristy Umfleet, and Scarlet Welborn.

Door prize donors include Angela and Brian Cox, Hamilton's Steakhouse, Hatch Early Learning, Kaplan Early Learning Company, Lakeshore Learning, Nella Boutique, and Positano's Restaurant. Decorations will be provided by Joy Johnson and Margie and Paul Trogon.

Those who earned an AAS or BS degree in early childhood education or a related field during the past year and will be recognized at the event are pictured below. We congratulate each of them for their hard work, achievement, and dedication to quality early education in our community.



Think Babies™ NC Alliance Micro Grant Announcement

ASHEBORO, N.C. (May 12, 2021)— The Think Babies™ NC Alliance announced on Tuesday Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC) is one of five communities in North Carolina that will receive a micro grant to support community advocacy efforts focused on infants, toddlers, and their families.



This is the fourth round of Community Partner Micro-Grants that Think Babies™ NC has funded in order to increase public awareness and policymaker support for issues impacting our youngest children across the

[READ FULL PRESS RELEASE](#)

Dr. Yum Demo Class

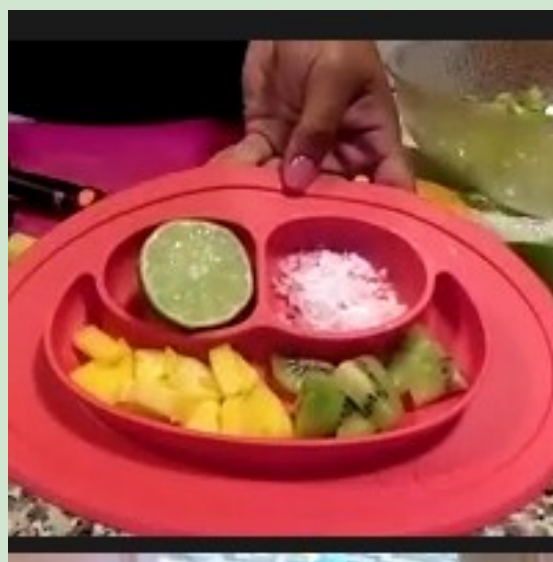
On May 5, Andee Edelson, Patty Sullivan, and Meredith Shields hosted a virtual Dr. Yum Demo Training. The class walked eight early educators through recipes featured in the Dr. Yum toolkit.

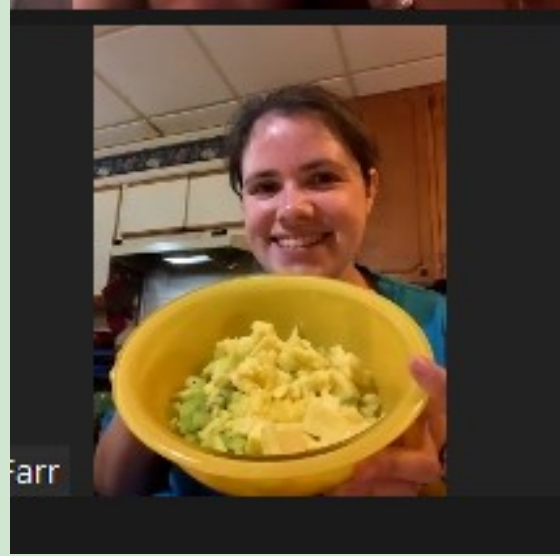
During the training, participants discussed the “Super Powers” of cauliflower and kiwi and talked about how each of them grow. Ms. Ruth from Honeycomb Kids demonstrated the proper use of the Dr. Yum doggy knives for children while everyone peeled and cut the fruits and vegetables for the recipes.

Participants also watched a video for cutting cauliflower and a video on how to peel a kiwi. Patty read the children's book *The Trouble with Cauliflower* by Jane Sutton and illustrated by Jim Harris. The book was raffled at the conclusion of the training. Emily Farr from North Asheboro Head Start won the book!

They discussed the extension ideas provided in the Dr. Yum toolkit, which bring in literacy, music and motor skills, and art and science to the kiwi and cauliflower adventures. Andee shared an art activity for creating a kiwi out of paper plates and brown, black and green construction paper.

The Dr. Yum Project is a non-profit organization on a mission to help families and communities overcome barriers to eating well. Below are photos from the virtual training.





Fun Family Recipe

Kiwi Coconut Salsa from Dr. Yum's Preschool Adventure

Pictured above. Makes 20 servings for tasting portions for one classroom of 15-20 students—or a family & friends gathering!

Ingredients:

- 8 kiwis, peeled and diced
- 2 mangos, peeled and diced
- 1 lime, juiced
- 2 teaspoons honey
- Pinch of salt
- 1/3 cup shredded unsweetened coconut
- Bag of corn tortilla chips

Directions:

1. Rinse and pat dry the fruit
2. Peel kiwis and dice into cubes
3. Peel the mango and dice into cubes
4. Use a juicer to juice the lime and collect juice
5. Whisk lime juice with honey and salt
6. Pour mixture over salad
7. Sprinkle with shredded coconut
8. Gently mix all ingredients together
9. Serve with corn tortilla chips

Wayne Rowe Announcement



2021 Gala for the Children

Chairpersons **Nicki and Brian Hill** are pleased to announce **Wayne Rowe**, RPC Board Treasurer, will serve as emcee for the 2021 event. For the past six years, Wayne has served in the position of Senior Vice President, Office Leader for Pinnacle Financial Partners. He's been with the company for 14 years.



In addition, they are pleased to announce RPC's partnership with WZOO and WKXR. The local radio station family is serving as this year's radio sponsor. Along with the sponsorship, **Busta Brown** of WZOO will be front and center with Wayne as the event's celebrity auctioneer.

In addition to the online auction held the week leading up to the IF YOU GIVE 2021 Gala for the Children, there will be a fund-a-need auction, dubbed the If You Give auction, as well as a live auction.

Read more in the upcoming issue of Asheboro Magazine!



The Best Mouse Cookies

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IF YOU GIVE 2021 Gala for the Children

We also have a growing list of sponsors we're proud and grateful to announce.

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AUCTION DONATIONS

Penciled In

- **Wed., May 19, 11 AM:** Family Engagement & Leadership Coalition

- **Thurs., May 20, 7 PM:** Night of the Stars
- **Mon., May 24, 12:30 PM:** Auction Committee
- **Wed., May 26, 6:30 PM:** CLASSy for Infants & Toddlers
- **Thurs., May 27, 9 AM:** NC Pre-K Drive-Through Registration (Randleman Public Library)
- **Thurs., May 27, 1 PM:** Sustainability Committee
- **Thurs., May 27, 4 PM:** Randolph ChAMPS
- **Tues. June 1, 1 PM:** Grant Review Committee
- **Wed., June 2, 10 AM:** NC Pre-K Drive Through Registration (RPC)
- **Thurs., June 10, 6:30 PM:** Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Early Childhood Classroom - Session II
- **Tues., June 15, 8:15 AM:** Board of Directors
- **Tues. June 15, 6 PM:** NC Foundations for Early Learning & Development - Session I
- **Wed. June 16, 11 AM:** Family Engagement & Leadership Coalition
- **Thurs., June 17, 9 AM:** NC Pre-K Drive Through Registration (Seagrove Public Library)
- **Thurs., June 17, 6:30 PM:** Can Infants & Toddlers Really Use Loose Parts?



[Visit our Calendar](#)

*Help us put kids first in
Randolph County!*

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new & gently used books
new infant blankets
diapers

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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!



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

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