



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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"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."

—William Shakespeare

Inspirations

One spring when I was a little girl, perhaps 6 or 7 years old, I was visiting my grandmother right after she had plowed her field for her garden. She called it "spring plowing time" and, for Grandma, it heralded thoughts of the sweet cucumbers and cantaloupes to come. It held the promise of the ripe red tomatoes that would yield us so many summer sandwiches and vibrant yellow squash that we would fry and end up burning our tongues because we were too impatient to let it cool. That particular day, while I visited, Grandma cupped her hands full of red dirt and asked me to take a sniff. "Doesn't this dirt smell wonderful?" Grandma asked enthusiastically. And all I could think to myself was that no, to me, the dirt didn't smell like much at all.



Fast forward all these many years. Grandma's field is long gone, but I know of a little farm not too far from where I live. I sense spring plowing is a big deal for

them, and I often wonder if they cup their hands full of the freshly plowed dirt and inhale its richness. I roll my car windows down and take several deep breaths as I drive by their field each year right after its spring plowing. The smell of the earth fills my soul and memories of Grandma dance in my heart.

To you and yours, I hope that springtime brings joys and appreciations for Earth's beauty and bounty. And if you are ever fortunate enough to stand in a field freshly plowed, inhale deeply.

Lisa Hayworth

Executive Director

StoryWalks



Randolph County Public Libraries (RCPL) announces celebration events for newly installed StoryWalks in Franklinville and Liberty.

The Franklinville and Liberty library branches will showcase the newly installed StoryWalks during the months of May and June. Franklinville will host a StoryWalk Festival at Riverside Park on Saturday, May 21 from 1-3 p.m. with music, face-painting, activity stations, and tasty treats. Each child that completes all of the activities may enter to win a free scooter. Liberty will feature the StoryWalk at Paul Henry Smith Park on Saturday, June 18, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. as part of Liberty's Juneteenth Celebration with vendors, food, music, games, and prizes.

A StoryWalk is an outdoor, active way to read a book. Two pages of a picture book are posted on panels that are installed 20-30 paces apart. Readers walk from one to the next, getting a snippet of the story each time. In this way, reading becomes an active experience that is engaging for children and adults. The RCPL StoryWalks will feature fun and engaging bilingual books geared

toward preschool and early elementary age kids.

RCPL, in partnership with Randolph Partnership for Children, applied for and received a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant from the State Library in 2021 in the amount of \$10,800. The grant funds covered the cost of the fixtures to create permanent StoryWalks in Franklinville and Liberty. The Towns of Franklinville and Liberty installed the fixtures. Liberty debuted its StoryWalk in December 2021, with the Franklinville StoryWalk following in March of 2022.

Pictured above is Charity Johnson, branch manager for Franklinville & Seagrove libraries, at the start of the Franklinville StoryWalk.

WOYC Book Donation

The Randolph Community College (RCC) Staff Association held a book drive in observance of the Week of the Young Child®.

Morgan Whisenant (far left) and Heather Clouston (far right) visited RPC on April 11 to donate the books.



[READ MORE](#)

Congratulations to The Growing Place!



Randolph Partnership for Children is pleased to share the NC Division of Child and Family WellBeing announced that The Growing Place Child Care Center earned the NC Breastfeeding-friendly Child Care Designation (NC BFCCD).

The announcement was made in a letter to Center Director Katherine Davis dated March 1.

Pictured is Katherine Davis, director of The Growing Place Child Care Center.

[Read More](#)

Party at the Pond

Save the date! On Sunday, May 29, Millstone Creek Orchards and Randolph Partnership for Children present:

Party at the Pond

Music Fest & Low Country Boil
Featuring the Band of Oz

Tickets include 6 hours of music from 3 local artists and headliner, Band of Oz, hayrides, games, and a low country boil dinner (shrimp, sausage, potatoes & corn).

Beer and wine will be available for purchase through our local Four Saints Brewing Co. & Zimmerman Vineyards. Millstone Creek Orchards will also have apple cider donuts available for dessert.

A virtual silent auction that will open a week ahead of the event as well as a live auction at the event will benefit Randolph Partnership for Children!

[Learn More & Buy Tickets](#)



The poster for 'Party @ The Pond' features the logos for Randolph Partnership for Children and Millstone Creek Orchards at the top. Below them, it says 'PRESENT' and then 'PARTY @ THE POND' in large, red, hand-drawn letters. Underneath is 'Music Fest & Low Country Boil' and a black box with 'MAY 29TH | 1-7PM' in white. The middle section lists activities: 'Six hours of live music featuring Band of Oz', 'Four Saints Brewery & Zimmerman Vineyards', 'Fundraising Fun - Randolph Partnership for Children', 'Orchard hayrides and lawn games', 'Low Country Boil Dinner', and 'Apple Cider Donuts & Concessions'. At the bottom, it says 'TICKETS LIVE AT BIT.LY/MCOPONDPARTY' and provides the address '506 Parks Crossroads Church Rd. Ramseur, NC 27316' and email 'info@millstonecreekorchards.com'.

Randolph Partnership for Children & MILLSTONE CREEK ORCHARDS PRESENT

PARTY @ THE POND

Music Fest & Low Country Boil

MAY 29TH | 1-7PM

Six hours of live music featuring Band of Oz
Four Saints Brewery & Zimmerman Vineyards
Fundraising Fun - Randolph Partnership for Children

Orchard hayrides and lawn games
Low Country Boil Dinner
Apple Cider Donuts & Concessions

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506 Parks Crossroads Church Rd. Ramseur, NC 27316 | info@millstonecreekorchards.com

Night at the Ballpark



Mark your calendars for Friday, July 15! We'll be at McCrary Park for a special Randolph Partnership for Children Night sponsored by Pinnacle Financial Partners.

Specially designed jerseys (pictured) will be worn by Zookeepers players and auctioned off during the game. Auction winners will receive their signed jerseys that evening right after the game!

[Visit Zookeepers Baseball](#)

Penciled In

- **Wed. April 20, 11 AM:** Family Engagement & Leadership Coalition
- **Thurs. April 21, 4 PM:** Randolph ChAMPS
- **Thurs., April 28:** Early Educator Day
- **Thurs. April 28:** Gala Sponsor Appreciation at the Vineyard
- **Thurs., May 12, 6 PM:** Night of the Stars
- **Wed., May 18, 11 AM:** Family Engagement & Leadership Coalition
- **Wed., May 18, Noon:** Director's Institute
- **Mon., May 23, 1 PM:** NC Pre-K Committee
- **Tues., May 24, 8:15 AM:** Board of Directors
- **Thurs., May 26, 4 PM:** Randolph ChAMPS



[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](#)

